

# Peace Knocks at Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN FITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profiters, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganing prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1—Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2—The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3—Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4—The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5—Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6—Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese (Continued on Page 13)



Michigan  
edition

## The Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XVIII, No. 14  
16 Pages

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

CHOU EN-LAI

### Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will lie tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 2-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bring about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

### 'Why Did These Kids Have to Die?'

By BERNARD BURTON

THE PROSPECT OF PEACE in Korea brought the jitters to Washington and new hope to young men living under the shadow of death in Korea. "Believe this reporter," wrote the New York Daily News' Washington columnist, John O'Donnell, "our leaders in both parties got the jitters today, figuring out what would happen to our economy if voters and our next Congress called a halt on war-economy spending."

Peace was viewed as a "threat" in Washington. Said O'Donnell: "Peace in the shooting war in Korea threatens to break out at any moment."

In Korea, however, men welcomed this "threat." It made sense and brought new hope to battle-shocked GIs who had only recently been drawn back from the fruitless attacks on Old Baldy, a poor excuse for a hill a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. A Washington columnist, such as O'Donnell, can sit around coldly weighing the pros and cons of peace in Korea.

IT IS a little more difficult for a combat correspondent in Korea even though his politics may not differ from O'Donnell's. War and peace often get tangled up with human emotions. Dead GIs as well as live ones often get into the story from Korea where peace is viewed as a blessing, not a "threat."

In the New York World-Telegram of March 27 it was the dead

GIs who got into Jim J. Lucas' story—the dead of Old Baldy. "You look at them," wrote Lucas, "and you ask yourself, 'why did these kids have to die?' And you are ashamed because you don't know the answer."

Lucas keeps probing for the answer in his dispatch, the sort of answer he could give if one of those kids asked him for an answer. He says, "I guess I know, deep inside," the reason—the kind of "reason" which his publisher and the Daily News' publisher have been spouting for three death-filled spring seasons in Korea. But Lucas doesn't feel he can give that kind of reason to the kids in Korea.

"If those boys under those brown wool blankets," he writes, "on those bloody stretchers sat up and asked me why they died on Old Baldy, I'd have to answer: 'I don't know, Mac. I just don't know.'"

THE SCRPPS-HOWARD writer

gets a glimpse of the truth but doesn't probe it very far. "We've lost thousands of men in the fight against tyranny during the last 10 years. But in the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for. . . . Sure, it was tough losing them but there was a reason for it. And—since there was a reason—men achieved dignity in death."

"When a man is asked to die, he deserves to know why. It should be for more than for Baldy, or for prestige, or to buy a stalemate."

THE SOLDIERS—the dead and the quick—got into the Times also on March 27, in a dispatch from the front, from Robert W. Alden: "The fight for Old Baldy is," wrote Alden, "as a professional soldier might say, 'a rough go.' These men who are fighting for us are not professional soldiers. They are for the most part farm boys, students and clerks. They want to live very

(Continued on Page 13)

### HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

## 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In the Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



## THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION

# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers' convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to "meet Wall Street's new chal-



WALTER REUTHER

lenge," consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1958 election. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment," with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the precinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution

is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

A speech by Reuther in which he set forth the basic conditions of the CIO for the scheduled merger negotiations, was seized upon by Meany who said that "the odds are against" unity and attacked the CIO head for discussing the issues in public prior to the talks.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A roll-call showed 812 hands for a roll-call. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International CEB's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

"I don't like the way these cases are reported," said William Bradley of Local 701, Indianapolis. "Some of these reports sound like management talking. I am president of my local and when a man says he gave notice I'll back him to the hilt."

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal wire from the President.

## Negro Cop Suspended For Arresting White

JUSTICE is far from being blind-color blind, that is-when it comes to dealing with acts of policemen.

Consider the fate of Private Norman F. Allison, a 37-year-old Negro policeman in Washington, D.C., who last week arrested a white woman motorist for driving illegally and dangerously on Bennington Road. A companion and Pvt. Allison were in plain clothes and in a police cruise car. After stopping the weaving driver, and identifying themselves as officers, the offending driver reportedly loosed a flow of abusive language. She protested that she didn't want "a n—r to put his hands" on her, refused to show her license or car registration.

The two Negro officers, sensing the explosive situation in the nation's capital, called in white officers to complete the arrest.

Pvt. Allison's fellow officer, Pvt. Milton Taylor, also a Negro, went along to the 9th Precinct to book the traffic violator on charges of weaving traffic, and failing to identify herself and her automobile. When Pvt. Allison called to pick up Taylor, their superior officer, Capt. Lewis Peters, expressed angry disapproval of the Negro policemen's arrest of a white woman. Allison vocally objected to Capt. Lewis' biased attitude and was immediately suspended pending action by Police Chief Robert V. Murray.

IN BALTIMORE, Mrs. Bernice Wilkins, a 22-year-old Negro housewife, was asked by a white

pass through her apartment to get onto an adjoining roof. She refused. The repairman returned a little later with two white policemen, Sgt. John Dunn and Officer Bernard Zilinski. Mrs. Wilkins stood her ground, asserting her right not to allow her home to be used as a public thoroughfare. The two cops set upon Mrs. Wilkins, clad only in a robe and a housecoat, tore her clothes from her and dragged her to the police station, leaving three children, aged from three months to five years, unattended with a gas stove burning.

Several hours later Mrs. Wilkins was acquitted of the "disorderly conduct" charge and returned to her children.

After mass indignation and protests by the Negro community, Commissioner Beverly Ober (who had ruled the Wilkins arrest "justified"), said the police had erred in charging the housewife with being disorderly. The charge should have been, he said, "assaulting an officer."

Now Mrs. Wilkins and her attorneys are seeking federal redress under federal civil rights laws.

### SUE FOR BACK PAY

LOS ANGELES (FP).—Local 770, Retail Clerks International Association, AFL filed 31 suits in superior court, demanding \$457,000 in back pay from supermarket operators on grounds that they reneged on wage agreements reached in January, 1954.

## POINT OF ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Mar

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

### THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

#### • Meany's Dim View on Unity • Electric Plant Votes AFL

GEORGE MEANY, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jimcrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,591 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric,ousting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzler to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the ILA. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket

lines. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 50,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopener. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringes. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they give the decision at a membership meeting April 8. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

THE CIO's executive board meeting on April 6 is expected to give an OK to the appointment of John Riffe of the steel union as executive vice-president of the organization, the vacancy left by Allan S. Haywood. . . . The first issue of Steel Labor since David J. McDonald was inaugurated president shows, covering its entire front cover, a two-color photo of an artist member of the union putting the finishing touches to a photo-of David J. McDonald.

## Use Ammo Scare for New Anti-Labor Laws

By ELIHU S. HICKS

THE RECENT Washington furor about an alleged shortage of ammunition in Korea was exposed last week as a cover for new legislation to be introduced in Congress to further restrict labor's right to strike.

A headline in the Friday, March 27 issue of the New York Journal-American provided the tipoff. The headline read: "37 Percent Cut in Ammunition Blamed on Steel Strike." Accusing Truman of maintaining a "coddle labor" policy during his administration, Congressman Smith (R-Kan), Van Zandt (R-Pa), and Hoffman (R-Mich) claimed that last year's steel strike, the Scovill Brass strike led by the CIO-UAW and the International Harvester strike led by UE caused serious cuts in ammunition deliveries.

General Van Fleet, who made the claims of "shortages" before the House Armed Services Committee, said that General Mark Clark and former Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett had attributed the "situation" to the strikes.

Screening that the Truman Administration had "put the demands of labor leaders ahead of defense

needs during World War II and now in Korea," Rep. Van Zandt called for a Congressional investigation and indicated that he would introduce more legislation to cripple labor.

Politically conscious labor leaders all throughout the country are preparing for the next offensives by Big Business—begun already in the Taft-Hartley hearings—to do away with the right to strike altogether.

The Van Fleet charges also pointed up the fact that the Korean war is and has always been directly in contradiction with the interests of labor.

### HIT RACKETEERING

VANCOUVER, B. C. (FP).—After disclosure of racketeering involving top officers of the International Longshoremen's Assn. (ILA) in New York, the Vancouver local voted to switch to the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

### COMPERS SCHOOL

SAN DIEGO, Cal. (FP).—The newest high school in this city will be named for Samuel Compers, first AFL president.



# Delegates Hit Control Grab of Locals by Brass

ATLANTIC CITY.—Here are excerpts from speeches of convention delegates at Atlantic City who opposed a new section of the United Auto Workers constitution, Article 10, Section 10, which gives the International Union the power to expel anyone who runs or accepts an office who is "subservient" to or a member of the Communist Party.

Delegate DeVito, Local 45: "I think there is a fear psychology that is going around in this country which all the people do not like. It seems to catch on, and we are trying to do the same thing in this convention. . . . I think we should have less control from the top and more tools with which to fight in a free, honest, democratic way."

Delegate Curske, Local 216, Calif.: "I think we are giving the international too much power. . . . I think this is a real bureaucratic setup or a move in that direction. We have always prided ourselves in being democratic."

Delegate Ferreri, Local 235: "I urge the defeat of this proposal. In the courts of our land when a man is found innocent of a crime, he cannot be retried. We don't have the Supreme Court say, 'Bring him up here and we are going to try him.' But that is exactly what we are doing if we accept these proposals. When our local union finds a man innocent, the international union wants to find the man guilty. I urge the defeat of this proposal."

Delegate Octavia Hawkins, Local 453: "I rise to speak in opposition because it seems to me the fundamental civil rights of the local union autonomy here is being questioned. . . . I am somewhat amazed that the men and women in this convention do not have the courage to get up and fight for what they feel is their democratic right. I want this convention to know that it doesn't make any difference to me whether the Executive Board favors me or not. When I think something is wrong I am going to tell them." Sister Hawkins is a well known Negro woman auto leader from Chicago.

## Face Runaway Deal In Kaiser Merger

TOLEDO.—Negotiations for merger between the Willys-Overland Co. and Kaiser-Frazer were recently held in New York City, attended by representatives of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to which Kaiser is heavily in debt. Representatives of California banking interests are reported interested in the deal.

Ward Canaday, chairman of Willys-Overland, was upset when word of the negotiations leaked out and caused a sensation in Toledo, especially it was reported that the company's facilities might be moved from Toledo to Willow Run.

Richard Gosser, UAW vice-president, requested a meeting with the company to discuss the matter. Overland employs 13,000 workers in Toledo.

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## McCARRAN-WALTER FOE FRAMED FOR ACTIVITIES

DETROIT.—Saul Grossman, executive secretary of the Michigan Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, was indicted March 27 by a Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D. C., on three counts of contempt of Congress arising out of his appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee last year.

The following statement was issued by Mr. Grossman:

"The indictment is part of a plot to hamstring the efforts of the American people to repeal the vicious Walter-McCarran Act, in which the Michigan Committee for Protection of Foreign Born is taking an active role."

"It follows the recent statement made by Rep. Francis Walter on the floor of Congress that only 'professional Jews' were opposing the Walter-McCarran Act, of which he is co-author. Reactionary Congressmen like Walter, and the forces behind them, are well aware of the tremendous movement against the Act which is daily gathering momentum. They know that major Catholic, Protestant and Jewish organizations, labor, veteran and civic groups have spoken out in protest and are organizing to defeat the Act. In their attempt to head off this growing movement, they are resorting to vilification of opponents of the Act, open anti-Semitism, and citations for contempt of Congress. They will

not succeed in these crude attempts. Instead, I am confident that the American people will win the fight for repeal of the Walter-McCarran Act and its replacement with an immigration and nationality law in keeping with our democratic traditions."

"The demand for books and records made by the Un-Americans from me was an attempt to add the names of thousands of people to their blacklist. I refused to become a stoolpigeon and informer. I refused to be a party to the destruction of the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution which forbids unreasonable search and seizure."

Also cited for "contempt" was Arthur McPhaul, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, who also refused to turn over CRC records to the Un-American. He has not yet been indicted."

DETROIT.—Mrs. Rebecca Maisenberg, a woman leader of the peoples movement, has been threatened with loss of her citizenship by action of the government.

Mrs. Maisenberg, long active in progressive circles and well known for her sterling work back in the early 30s on behalf of the unemployed, fight for Negro rights and helping to unionize the auto plants, knew nothing of the government's pending act until the news began blaring over the radio and appearing in newspapers.

## FIGHTING FOR THE WORKER

You have read the coverage of the United Auto Workers convention in the last two issues of The Michigan Worker and you saw how an objective coverage of the real news of the convention differed vastly from the slanted, pro-war redbaiting stuff run by the Detroit press.

This period ahead, when the task of putting the resolutions of the convention into life is the number one job for the auto workers, The Michigan Worker will do and can do a great public service by continuously bringing the basic program of the convention to the

people, especially the auto workers who did not get to Atlantic City.

Here's where you come in, reader. This last two weeks we have sold hundreds of extra copies of the two convention issues. We have made many new friends for The Michigan Worker. We ask our readers to continue to keep taking the paper to new people. Let's build The Michigan Worker now. For many weeks to come The Worker will carry convention news and material and analysis. Be sure to order extra copies. Be sure to renew your sub.

## Pension Increase from \$117 to \$130, Review Pensions for 2,100 Others

An increase from \$117.50 a month to \$130 in maximum retirement pension benefits has been won by members of Willys-Overland, the six-man union-management pension board announced here. The pension benefit includes federal social security payments.

The company pays \$1.50 a month for each year of service of an employee up to 30 years; together with the maximum social security benefit of \$85 monthly. Thus a Willys-Overland worker with 30 years service gets a monthly pension of \$130 at 65 years of age.

Study is also being given to possible revision of the unique UAW "area" plan here, covering some 2,100 workers in 27 small plants, along the lines of increasing maximum benefits.

Actually, Willys-Overland continues to finance its share of the plan by contributions of eight cents an hour for each worker; but it is agreed that the company share is not to be reduced in the event of an increase in the social security benefit, as has just occurred.

This follows the UAW - GM type of pension, rather than the "Ford" pension plan, which requires actuarial studies before any increase in benefits.

## AUTOTOWN ALLEY by THE OLD-TIMER

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

SPIES—Some 35 FBI agents decorated the balcony of the convention hall in Atlantic City. When the case of the Ford Five came on the floor of the convention, each of the FBI agents pulled a copy of the Grievance Committee report out and followed closely the proceedings. When the vote came, the gun-shooters cast quick looks around the voting convention body.

One newsmen said that the reason the FBI agents were in the gallery was because this is part of their training in industrial labor relations.

LONELY—Quote from Vic Reuther speaking at the UAW convention . . . "It gets mighty lonely at times on the other side and in a number of countries particularly France and Italy." Our advice to Vic, come back home and stop disrupting.

CHOPPER—Many UAW delegates were puzzled why Joe Curran, NMU president, was invited to speak at the UAW convention. Reason, Curran was the nominee of Reuther for Director of Organization to replace the late Alan Haywood. The Steelworkers Union took care of that and two of their choppers are now in Haywood's post.

VOICE OF AMERICA—The "Voice" was strictly stacking up the kind of interviews to be beamed to Europe from the convention. They handed the customer a list of questions and then he was to talk on that. Here are some of the questions: "Why I am not a Communist?" "What do you think about the persecution of Catholics and Jews in the Soviet world?" "How we defeated the Communists in my local." "Moscow says there are 18,000,000 unemployed in the USA and that workers are dying in the streets of Detroit of starvation, have you seen anything of the sort?"

This is the kind of loaded questions they handed delegates whom they grabbed off the floor and brought into the press room to answer. Nothing about speedup, what do you think of GM, Ford, Chrysler profits, why companies refuse to hire Negro women, are you for peace?

CONCENTRATION—The Reuther machine at Atlantic City really sweated out the election of Regional Director on Detroit's West Side where Carl Stellato, president of Ford Local 800, was running against incumbent Joe McCusker. Up in the room where the election was held all the Reuther top brass piled in waiting out the results. Reuther, it is reported, met specially with the Kaiser-Frazer delegation the night before the election since they were reported split on McCusker.

REASON—Some people claimed that the reason Tom Starling, International Executive Board member in the South, was defeated was not enough time on the job and some other things. He was replaced by another machine man.

BORING—Reuther's bodyguard Sullivan has a new job. He has gone back to work in the Rouge plant and is canvassing people about starting a new "movement." He used to work in Press Steel. He is now working in Maintenance. If it depends on Sully to build a movement in Ford Local 800 to win the local back for Reuther, then no one will be awake nights.

VOTE—Don't forget to vote Monday, April 8.

STOCKHOLDERS—Emil Mazey, UAW International secretary-treasurer, was asked at the convention why there were no speakers invited this year from Washington, D. C., to the convention. Mazey replied: Do you think we are inviting stockholders from General Motors to our convention?

CHILDREN—Good proposition adopted at the convention setting up a children's lobby in Washington to campaign for children's needs.

SURVEY—A survey of discrimination in all Regions of the UAW in the United States and Canada is about completed. It is reported being compiled with the help of 700 FEPC committees the UAW has organized in locals.

RIVER ROUGE—Someone should tell the UAW top brass once and for all that it was the city of River Rouge which had the first FEPC ordinance in Michigan, not Pontiac. Every time one reads a report no mention is made of River Rouge. It's always Pontiac. Reason is that the UAW top brass doesn't have confidence in Negro-white unity to win FEPC on the ballot.

INDIANS—For the first time in the history of the UAW mention was made in a resolution about aiding the Indians of America. They were named as a subject people within our nation who had to be given aid and assistance.

WAGE EARNER—The scratch sheet of the ACTU, "The Wage Earner," was used as evidence against the Ford Five by Livingstone, UAW vice-president, who led the attack against the five. The "Wage Earner" story used against John Gallo was that he had been the chauffeur for William Z. Foster when Foster once visited Detroit.

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# NO MCCARTHYISM IN UAW, DELEGATES TELL REUTHER

ATLANTIC CITY.—One of the most significant and well applauded speeches at the 14th convention of the CIO United Auto Workers just concluded in Atlantic City was that made by Delegate Greenberg of Local 626 in Connecticut. He charged that red baiting

## Detroit Leads The U. S. in Bankruptcies

DETROIT.—As delegates to the recent UAW convention in Atlantic City arrived back home they saw headlines which said:

"Detroit Leads U. S. in Bankruptcies; Free Press Survey Finds Economic Picture Darker."

The story quoted a Board of Commerce Research Director John Stewart flatly predicting a cut back in auto production.

"This is an automotive town. I predict that the automobile companies will have to cut back production in the last half of this year. I don't see how they can possibly continue to produce at their current level and sell all the cars they make," he said.

The credit situation was discussed by Edward Phelan, secretary manager of the Detroit Association of Credit Men. He said the number of credit accounts turned over to credit firms for collection is up 10 percent over 1952.

"The number of unpaid bills, obligating both consumers and retailers, is the highest it has been since the end of World War II," he said.

He explained that the increase of economic failures on an individual basis is responsible for the general tightening up of the credit.

"The time allowed to pay off credit contracts is getting shorter," he said. "This is a condition that in a relatively free economy always exists just prior to a recession."

Walter McKenzie, senior bankruptcy referee in the Federal Building, expects 1,900 bankruptcy petitions will be filed this year.

The number of bankruptcies (both individuals and business) is almost six times greater than in 1946 and is nearly half of those filed in 1934.

McKenzie, whose region covers 39 counties in Michigan, said the Detroit area now leads the nation in the number of bankruptcies.

Herein lies one of the answers as to why Chrysler Corporation recently cut prices on its cars, why Kaiser-Frazer has 10,000 unsold new cars stacked around the plant, and why Plymouth is staging a campaign to sell used cars.

attacks on delegates who spoke in opposition to positions taken by top union officials was bringing McCarthyism into the union. Here are some highlights of his speech.

"... I think it is about time, and I as an individual resent the implication that anybody that speaks on one of these topics has to be a Communist or a fellow traveler or a disrupter."

He was urging a campaign for a 30-hour work week with 40 hours pay when the economic recession which Walter Reuther warned about starts.

Delegate Greenberg continued "... I would like to point out for the benefit of the delegates that this resolution (30 for 40) happens to be a resolution adopted in my local union unanimously and adopted by the GM subcouncil No. 6 unanimously."

"... I cannot speak for the speaker on the platform (Ken Morris, president Local 212 chairman resolutions committee) or know what he knows of the 30 hour week, but I for one, resent when he says that we know that it is unsound, impractical, unrealistic and irresponsible."

"I would like to say further that the question of speaking on resolutions that do not agree with the top officers and our International Board is leaving a sentiment in this hall that you are against the administration and therefore must be classified as a lefty or a Communist."

"... Yesterday you passed a resolution that on three steps a man can be called a Communist or a fellow traveler and can be removed by the officers and if the local doesn't do the job the International Executive Board will do it for them."

"Am I to gather from that, that by speaking for the 30-hour week some opportunist back in my local union is going to say that Greenberg is a Communist."

"I spoke for the 30-hour week and if they can't remove me in my local union the international union will do the job for them and that is what we voted for yesterday."

"I believe when we censor McCarthyism and when we say that the Congressmen and Senators in Washington are afraid to speak until they get approval by McCarthy whether they are going to be censored or not, I think we are getting worse than McCarthyism in our International Union."

"They say it is not practical: that we are playing politics with the issue, what is impractical about insisting upon a 30-hour week now?"

"For the benefit of the delegates here, I happen to work in a GM plant that worked most of last year at 37 hours a week, and I earned, and many workers in that plant earned less than I did—\$3,400 for

a year's pay. So what is impractical about the fight for a 30-hour week now."

A great round of applause greeted this forthright speech.

Carl Stellato, president of Ford Local 600, spoke on this resolution charging that speeches against the 30-hour week with 40 hours pay that were coming from the platform he meant Ken Morris and Reuther) should be made in a conference of the National Association of Manufacturers.

## DELEGATES AT CONVENTION WARN:

# Annual Wage Can Be Trap

## Prices 'Drop,' Profits Hit All-Time High

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index was down .5 percent in Detroit from January to February, led by a decrease of 1.9 percent for food items, according to a report from BLS.

With auto wages still tied by recent UAW convention decision to BLS price indexes the next so-called "adjustment" of the escalator wages can mean a wage cut of one cent per hour in auto wages. GM made \$588,721,179 in 1952; Chrysler \$78,696,599 in 1952; and Ford is handing out the millions right and left from the Ford Foundation to everyone but Ford workers. The workers are in no mood for penny wage cuts or penny wage increases.

The delegates in Atlantic City sounded off that unless the corporations began producing something else besides hard luck stories on these demands then any future long term contracts would be out.

ATLANTIC CITY.—Close attention marked the attitude of delegates to the 14th CIO United Auto Workers convention on the issue of the annual wage and all speeches for and against it. Many delegates felt they were not opposed to an annual wage, but taking Walter Reuther's own warning that an economic recession looms in 1953 or 1954, many wondered if employers in 1955 will be willing to grant an annual wage or even sign five-year contracts.

Delegate Curke, Local 216: "... I said that the annual wage would be negotiated on a percentage basis, that when you get into negotiations it would be a question of seniority ... a man who has 2 years seniority shall receive 40 hours pay, a man who has one year shall receive 26 weeks of the year and those with less than a year will have no guaranteeable wage. "That will be the trap that we will be in and I can't see the employer suddenly becoming so generous in recognizing that this is for his welfare."

"He has always operated on the basis that if there is no profit, then there is no work. You can rest assured that as soon as the market is flooded with automobiles we will be laid off. So therefore, I say to the delegates we have plenty of

time to think this over. ... At the convention Reuther made all other issues secondary to the annual wage demand to be presented to employers in 1955.

This, of course, provided a suitable cover for not bringing early and often to the convention the hot issue of present negotiations or lack of negotiations with the Big Three.

With many resolution in the resolutions committee calling for abrogation of the five-year contracts, no such resolution ever saw the light of day thanks to the ruthless hands of Resolution Committee chairman Ken Morris of Local 212.

Many a delegates wanted to get the floor to discuss and ask where do we go from this convention on present demands.

Meanwhile two long years are ahead before the five-year contracts expire and the only weight Reuther put on the employers is that he won't sign any more five-year contracts unless they give something now.

Many delegates we spoke to felt that this was definitely dodging the issue, would be recognized by the bosses as such, and would result in the Big Three continuing to offer nickels to the skilled workers while over one million production workers got nothing.

## SHORTAGE OF CUSTOMERS HITS CHRYSLER

ATLANTIC CITY.—News that Chrysler made some small price cuts on some of its overpriced 1953 models will be used to raise new road blocks against granting Chrysler workers wage increases, was the feeling of delegates at the UAW convention.

The price cuts came after months of speedup of Chrysler workers on 1953 models. Only two weeks ago at the Dodge Hamtramck plant workers stopped work to fight speedup.

At Chrysler's Warren-DeSoto

plant the union has been battling speedup for months on all assembly jobs. For the past several weeks Chrysler Plymouth has been conducting an advertising campaign to sell used cars in order to help dealers make a dent in the huge pile of used cars obtained when big trade ins were given in order to sell 1952 models.

When the union placed its modest economic improvements before Ford and Chrysler, the reply was they "couldn't afford." Yet Chrysler made \$78,696,599 profits after

taxes in 1952.

AT a recent UAW convention the Reuther machine red baited, intimidated, fought all proponents of the 30-hour week with 40 hours pay. But 30-40 may soon be a point on the agenda for the Chrysler workers if new cars are not bought. This is rapidly becoming the base and is the main reason for the price cuts.

Therefore watch for Chrysler corporation continuing to cry it "can't afford" the union demands in present negotiations.

# AFL-CIO Back Negro Candidate April 6

DETROIT.—The American Federation of Labor and the CIO in Wayne County have endorsed two Negro candidates, one for Recorder's Court Judge and the other for Detroit Board of Education.

The candidates are: Charles Wesley Jones, well known Negro attorney who several years ago was appointed by Gov. Williams to the post of Recorder's Court Judge but was defeated for election when Negro hating cops from the Hunt St. station delivered ballot boxes of several Negro wards

hours after the polls opened. Judge Jones finished well up in the recent primaries. With much needed help in communities he can be elected.

The candidacy of Charles R. A. Smith, another Negro attorney, for Common Pleas Judge was unfortunately bypassed by both the AFL and CIO, despite attorney Smith's winning nomination in the primary.

Attorney Smith is expected to make a strong bid to break down also the life-white character of the

Common Pleas Courts.

Dr. Remus Robinson is the first Negro candidate to run for Detroit Board of Education incumbents Mrs. Jaze Lovejoy and Mrs. Laura Osborn, both white, are seeking reelection.

Dr. Robinson is backed by all sections of labor, and most civic groups in the city. He is a very strong contender to break down the life-white setup in the Board of Education.

(Also backed by labor are such well known figures as incumbent

Recorder's Court Judge George Murphy.

Labor is also backing Proposition "E" which would add new taxes to build schools. Many labor people say that while backing Proposition "E," the billions being spent for armaments should be spent for peacetime needs such as schools.

Also backed by labor is the well known attorney James Montante, a leader of the Italian people and a member and former president of the Detroit Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

In River Rouge, CIO's PAC is

backing incumbent Mayor Warren Duncan. The first FEPC law in Michigan was won in River Rouge. For backing the FEPC campaign Mayor Duncan is being bitterly attacked by white supremacist elements. His reelection will be one of the guarantees that FEPC will be enforced.

A Charter Amendment "C" in Detroit to let City Council members raise their pay is expected to be defeated. Both CIO and AFL are urging their members to vote straight Democrat in the State spring elections.



# Peace Knocks at Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN FITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profits, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganing prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1—Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2—The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3—Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4—The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5—Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6—Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese (Continued on Page 13)



ILLINOIS  
DUSABLE  
EDITION

The Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XVIII, No. 14  
16 Pages

26

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

## Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will be tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 5-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bringing about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

## 'Why Did These Kids Have to Die?'

By BERNARD BURTON

THE PROSPECT OF PEACE in Korea brought the jitters to Washington and new hope to young men living under the shadow of death in Korea. "Believe this reporter," wrote the New York Daily News' Washington columnist, John O'Donnell, "our leaders in both parties got the jitters today figuring out what would happen to our economy if voters and our next Congress called a halt on war-economy spending."

Peace was viewed as a "threat" in Washington. Said O'Donnell: "Peace in the shooting war in Korea threatens to break out at any moment."

In Korea, however, men welcomed this "threat." It made sense and brought new hope to battle-shocked GIs who had only recently been drawn back from the fruitless attacks on Old Baldy, a poor excuse for a hill a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. A Washington columnist, such as O'Donnell, can sit around coldly weighing the pros and cons of peace in Korea.

IT IS a little more difficult for a combat correspondent in Korea even though his politics may not differ from O'Donnell's. War and peace often get tangled up with human emotions. Dead GIs as well as live ones often get into the story from Korea where peace is viewed as a blessing, not a "threat."

In the New York World-Telegram of March 27 it was the dead

GIs who got into Jim G. Lucas' story—the dead of Old Baldy. "You look at them," wrote Lucas, "and you ask yourself, 'why did these kids have to die?' And you are ashamed because you don't know the answer."

Lucas keeps probing for the answer in his dispatch, the sort of answer he could give if one of those kids asked him for an answer. He says, "I guess I know, deep inside," the reason—the kind of "reason" which his publisher and the Daily News' publisher have been spouting for three death-filled spring seasons in Korea. But Lucas doesn't feel he can give that kind of reason to the kids in Korea.

"If those boys under those brown wool blankets," he writes, "on those bloody stretchers sat up and asked me why they died on Old Baldy, I'd have to answer: 'I don't know, Mac. I just don't know.'"

THE SCRPPS-HOWARD writer

gets a glimpse of the truth but doesn't probe it very far. "We've lost thousands of men in the fight against tyranny during the last 10 years. But in the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for. . . . Sure, it was tough losing them but there was a reason for it. And—since there was a reason—men achieved dignity in death."

"When a man is asked to die, he deserves to know why. It should be for more than for Baldy, or for prestige, or to buy a stalemate."

THE SOLDIERS—the dead and the quick—got into the Times also on March 27, in a dispatch from the front, from Robert W. Alden: "The fight for Old Baldy is," wrote Alden, "as a professional soldier might say, 'a rough go.' These men who are fighting for us are not professional soldiers. They are for the most part farm boys, students and clerks. They want to live very

(Continued on Page 13)

## HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

### 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In this Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to meet Wall Street's new chal-



WALTER REUTHER

lenge, consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1956 election. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment" with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the precinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution

is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

A speech by Reuther in which he set forth the basic conditions of the CIO for the scheduled merger negotiations, was seized upon by Meany who said that "the odds are against" unity and attacked the CIO head for discussing the issues in public prior to the talks.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A roll-call showed 812 hands for a rollcall. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International CIO's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

"I don't like the way these cases are reported," said William Bradley of Local 761, Indianapolis. "Some of these reports sound like management talking. I am president of my local and when a man says he gave notice I'll back him to the hilt."

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal wire from the President.

## Negro Cop Suspended For Arresting White

JUSTICE is far from being blind-color blind, that is-when it comes to dealing with acts of policemen.

Consider the fate of Private Norman F. Allison, a 37-year-old Negro policeman in Washington, D.C., who last week arrested a white woman motorist for driving illegally and dangerously on Bennington Road. A companion and Pvt. Allison were in plain clothes and in a police cruise car. After stopping the weaving driver, and identifying themselves as officers, the offending driver reportedly loosed a flow of abusive language. She protested that she didn't want "a n—r to put his hands" on her, refused to show her license or car registration.

The two Negro officers, sensing the explosive situation in the nation's capital, called in white officers to complete the arrest.

Pvt. Allison's fellow officer, Pvt. Milton Taylor, also a Negro, went along to the 9th Precinct to book the traffic violator on charges of weaving traffic, and failing to identify herself and her automobile. When Pvt. Allison called to pick up Taylor, their superior officer, Capt. Lewis Peters, expressed angry disapproval of the Negro policeman's arrest of a white woman. Allison vocally objected and was immediately suspended pending action by Police Chief Robert V. Murray.

IN BALTIMORE, Mrs. Bernice Wilkins, a 22-year-old Negro housewife, was asked by a white

pass through her apartment to get onto an adjoining roof. She refused. The repairman returned a little later with two white policemen, Sgt. John Dunn and Officer Bernard Zilinski. Mrs. Wilkins stood her ground, asserting her right not to allow her home to be used as a public thoroughfare. The two cops set upon Mrs. Wilkins, clad only in a robe and a housecoat, tore her clothes from her and dragged her to the police station, leaving three children, aged from three months to five years, unattended with a gas stove burning.

Several hours later Mrs. Wilkins was acquitted of the "disorderly conduct" charge and returned to her children.

After mass indignation and protests by the Negro community, Commissioner Beverly Ober (who had ruled the Wilkins arrest "justified"), said the police had erred in charging the housewife with being disorderly. The charge should have been, he said, "assaulting an officer."

Now Mrs. Wilkins and her attorneys are seeking federal redress under federal civil rights laws.

### SUE FOR BACK PAY

LOS ANGELES (FP).—Local 770, Retail Clerks International Association, AFL, filed 31 suits in superior court, demanding \$457,000 in back pay from supermarket operators on grounds that they reneged on wage agreements.

## Use Ammo Scare for New Anti-Labor Laws

By ELIHU S. HICKS

THE RECENT Washington furor about an alleged shortage of ammunition in Korea was exposed last week as a cover for new legislation to be introduced in Congress to further restrict labor's right to strike.

A headline in the Friday, March 27 issue of the New York Journal-American provided the tipoff. The headline read: "37 Percent Cut in Ammunition Blamed on Steel Strike." Accusing Truman of maintaining a "coddle labor" policy during his administration, Congressman Smith (R-Kan), Van Zandt (R-Pa), and Hoffman (R-Mich) claimed that last year's steel strike, the Scovill Brass strike led by the CIO-UAW and the International Harvester strike led by UE caused serious cuts in ammunition deliveries.

General Van Fleet, who made the claims of "shortages" before the House Armed Services Committee, said that General Mark Clark and former Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett had attributed the "situation" to the strikes.

Screening that the Truman Administration had "let the defense

needs during World War II and now in Korea," Rep. Van Zandt called for a Congressional investigation and indicated that he would introduce more legislation to cripple labor.

Politically conscious labor leaders all throughout the country are preparing for the next offensives by Big Business—beginning already in the Taft-Hartley hearings—to do away with the right to strike altogether.

The Van Fleet charges also pointed up the fact that the Korean war is and has always been directly in contradiction with the interests of labor.

### HIT RACKETEERING

VANCOUVER, B. C. (FP).—After disclosure of racketeering involving top officers of the International Longshoremen's Assn. (ILA) in New York, the Vancouver local voted to switch to the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

### COMPERS SCHOOL

SAN DIEGO, Cal. (FP).—The newest high school in this city will be named for Samuel Compers, first AFL president of California.

## POINT OF ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Max

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

## THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

### Meany's Dim View on Unity

### Electric Plant Votes AFL

GEORGE Meany, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jincrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,501 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric, ousting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzler to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the ILA. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket

lines. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 30,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopen. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringe. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they give the decision at a membership meeting April 8. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

THE CIO's executive board meeting on April 6 is expected to give an OK to the appointment of John Riffe of the steel union as executive vice-president of the organization, the vacancy left by Allan S. Haywood. . . . The first issue of Steel Labor since David J. McDonald was inaugurated president shows, covering its entire front cover, a two-color photo of an artist member of the union putting the finishing touches to a photo of David J. McDonald.



# Industrialists' Lobby Kills Shop Safety Bill

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Illinois' big business lobby has blocked a measure that might have decreased the number of casualties in industrial plants in this state, the Illinois State Federation of Labor charged this week.

The lobbyists killed a bill which would have called on business firms employing more than 25 people to institute a safety program.

The bill was defeated in the state Senate Committee on Industrial Affairs. A majority of the committee voted the bill out "do not pass."

THE state AFL specifically pointed responsibility for defeat of the bill at the lobbies of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Manufacturers Association.

"It was the mildest kind of proposal designed to prevent accidents and save lives," said Reuben Soderstrom, president of the state AFL.

But the two big business groups opposed the measure bitterly and operated behind the scenes to block the bill, conscious that any kind of safety program interferes with speedup and profits.

THE labor-sponsored measure was an attempt to cut the appalling toll of 50,000 compensable injuries in Illinois plants each year, including hundreds of fatalities.

Nine Republicans and one Democrat made up the committee majority which killed the bill. They acted in the face of pleas by Soderstrom and CIO legislative representative John Alesia that the measure be reported out favorably.

Soderstrom pointed out that Gov. Stratton had asked for industrial

safety measures in his inaugural address. However, the members of the Governor's own party on the committee were instrumental in stopping the bill.

Among those who killed the bill were Sen. Arthur Larson, who is also a bitter opponent of public housing, and Sen. John P. Meyer,

one of the chief sponsors of the witchhunting Broyles Bills.

Soderstrom declared that the big business lobbyists had expressed "intense feelings" in opposition to the safety bill.

He warned that the safety campaign must not be delayed "until another mine catastrophe or oil refinery explosion rocks this state."

## Rip Stall on State FEP Bill

CHICAGO. — Campaigners for an FEPC in Illinois directed their fire against the Stratton administration this week for blocking fair employment legislation.

A two-day conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, held at St. Anselm's Church, decided to begin circulating petitions containing the proposed state FEPC law.

"Even some legislators have been telling us the Negro people are not interested in FEPC," declared attorney W. Robert Ming Jr. "We're going to prove otherwise."

THE DELEGATES at the conference, including many from downstate towns, reported on the toll of discrimination. One woman from Elgin, Illinois, declared that employers there are "anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, anti-Negro — well, just anti-human being."

She told of the Jimcrow ban at the giant Elgin Watch Co. and demanded, "What are we going to do about it?"

Paul Thurlow, state leader of the NAACP, told how discrimination today pervades every phase of life in many communities, affecting children as well as adults.

He made the startling revelation

that the only form of recreation available to Negro children in Centralia, Ill. is swimming in flooded abandoned coal mines.

"WE WANT an FEPC with enforcement provisions," he said. "One learns by doing and we are going to make the employers do so they will learn."

The conference of 150 delegates from seven Midwest states discussed a comprehensive legislative program on housing, civil rights, FEPC and education.

Ellsworth Smith, secretary of the Chicago CIO Industrial Union Council, lashed the failure of the government to enforce compliance with its ban on discrimination in plants which have government contracts. He stated that the CIO here has asked all locals to protest these violations of a federal executive order in their plants.

A RALLY on FEPC was held here last Monday night, called by the state NAACP branches and the Illinois Committee for Equal Job Opportunities.

Said Thurlow: "We have no assurances by Governor Stratton that he and his administration will sponsor an FEPC bill and we must make it clear to the governor that such a bill is desired."

## Groups Denounce 'Gestapo Bills'

CHICAGO. — The threat that the Broyles Bills will be jammed through the Senate next week was answered by protests from numerous groups against the "Gestapo Bills."

A wire signed by 45 prominent Illinois citizens said that the measure would create "a gestapo which would set neighbor against neighbor." The wire was sent to the

state senators.

The bills are currently in the Senate, which was slated to consider them next week. Those opposing the bills have been contacting state senators this week urging that they vote the thought control measures down.

A preliminary meeting of trade unionists was held at UE Hall last week which is expected to plan a conference later this month on battling the Broyles Bills.

One of the Broyles Bills, Senate Bill 102, was blasted by the Chicago Bar Association.

The attorneys' group said that the bill is "unconstitutional in its loyalty oath provision, vague and indefinite in its enforcement provisions, and lacking a uniform method of determining who may be a subversive person."

MEANWHILE, in Springfield, the State Senate Appropriations Committee set aside \$65,000 for use under S.B. 101, in case it is passed. This Broyles Bill sets up a so-called investigation committee to probe progressive groups, schools, churches.

Broyles declared that he favored the investigation of clergymen who "get off easy."

## SHOP TALK

INTERNATIONAL Harvester has been "quietly" increasing its prices, according to the Wall Street Journal. The boosts noted by the paper were \$17 more for the cub tractor, \$25 more for a power loader and a boost of 5 1/2 percent for four crawler tractors.

Commented UAW-CIO Local 6 at Melrose Park in its "Union Voice": "We want to know when do we get our raise, since the company always contends that labor costs is the reason they have to boost prices."

SHOULD foremen who are demoted be allowed full unit seniority and the right to bump production workers out of their jobs? The Gary U. S. Steel Local 1014 said definitely "No" at their meeting last week. The issue has come up several times and may recur if the reports about the closing of the U. S. Steel coke plant in Joliet are true. The local voted unanimously that foremen should not be allowed this type of super-authority.

A CONDEMNATION of the Broyles Bills has been voted by the members of AFL Progressive Miners Local 1 in Macoupin County. The local has consistently opposed this kind of witch-hunt legislation.

AN ARBITRATOR has ruled that the Melrose Park Harvester workers get back their wash-up and tool-cleaning time which the company took away from them after the strike last summer.

NOTES: The AFL International Ladies Garment Workers will open their convention here May 18 with a big cultural program at the Civic Opera House. . . . On the export line at the Harvester Melrose Park plant, workers are taking transfers out because of a \$4 wage cut. . . . For the first time in history, a woman has been elected president of a district lodge of the International Association of Machinists. She is Mrs. Martha Olinger, who heads District 101 in Rockford, made up of 10 lodges with more than 3,000 members.

SOME 350 delegates are expected to take part in the Chicago CIO Council's annual conference at the Morrison Hotel next Saturday, April 10.

There will be 10 workshops dealing with such topics as permanent PAC organization, civil rights, safety programs, legislation.

UNBELIEVABLE as that may sound, workers in the Allen Industries plant at Herrin, Ill., have been working for as low as 85 cents an hour.

They joined the United Mine Workers District 30; called a two-day strike and raised the minimum to \$1.12 an hour.

SPEEDUP and steel output continues at a breakneck pace at the mills in this area. The giant Gary U. S. Steel plant is turning out at the rate of 106.4 percent of capacity. At South Works in South Chicago, it's 100.5 percent. The Sheet Mill is at 130 percent. Inland Steel is operating at 101.9 percent of capacity.

THE AFL Grain Millers Local 27 is trying to win \$7,000 vacation back pay for workers at the Chicago plant of General Mills. The union contends that the workers were gypped out of a week's vacation last year when the non-defunct Wage Stabilization Board invalidated a contract which retroactively increased the vacation allowances from two weeks to three weeks.

THE 1,000 CIO Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers on strike at the Lever Brothers plant in Hammond have the plant down solid for two weeks now.

However, the company is making wily use of the fact that the AFL signed a contract at five of its plants for the same wage increase which the company is offering the CIO.

THE CIO Steelworkers in Gary have gotten themselves in the middle of a squabble on comparative tax rates for the various steel companies in Lake County.

The contention is that Inland and Youngstown Sheet & Tube pay a lower rate than U. S. Steel, amounting to a differential of about 10 cents per ton of steel.

Steelworkers suspect that all three of the companies are guilty of tax chiseling.

LAYOFFS are mounting in the Southern Illinois coal fields. Some 740 miners were thrown out of work last week with the closing of Orient Mine No. 1 at Orient, Ill.

Two other recent closings were Sahara Coal Co. Mine No. 5 in Saline County and Bluebird Coal Co. Mine No. 8 in Williamson County.

### MAY DAY EDITION THE WORKER

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SEND MAY DAY GREETINGS Individual at 41-33 on each 4 copies 425

### What's On?

STEVE NELSON, former Pittsburgh leader, will speak here on Sunday evening, April 8, at 8 p.m. at the American Labor Union, 7123 North St.

MORRIS U. SCHAPPES gives two lectures on "Current Affairs in Jewish Life" Wed., April 8, 8:30 p.m. at Albany Park Center, 4325 N. Kedzie. Sat., April 11, 8:30 p.m. at Ben Miltzman Culture Center, 2733 Hirsch St.

ROOSEVELT-Stalin Memorial Meeting, Sunday afternoon, April 13, 3 p.m. Speakers: William L. Patterson, executive secretary, CRC; John Howard Lawson, writer; Cedric Belfrage, editor, National Guardian. Admission free at door, 60c in advance. American Chicago Council of Jewish Women, 1000 N. Dearborn, Chicago, 4-1000.

### ILLINOIS DUSABLE EDITION

## The Worker

Send all material, advertisements and subscriptions for the Illinois Edition to 64 W. Randolph St., Room 918, Chicago 1, Ill. Phone RA 6-9198.

Editor: CARL HIRSCH

MEAN

MORRIS U. SCHAPPES

Author of "Documentary History of the Jews in the U.S."

Two Lectures on "Current Affairs in Jewish Life"

Wed., April 8, 8:30 pm

Albany Park Center

4325 N. Kedzie

Sat., April 11, 8:30 pm

Ben Miltzman

Culture Center

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## THE BROYLES BILLS STRUGGLE

# An Outlook For Victory.

CAN the Broyles Bills be defeated?

There appear to be gnawing doubts among some progressives—doubts which can prove to be fatal if they bring about inaction and apathy.

These bills have defeated twice before. They can be defeated again!

It's true that former Governor Stevenson helped in 1951 with his veto. But this veto didn't come out of the blue. It came as a result of the struggle and pressure and the vigorously expressed opposition to these bills by the overwhelming majority of the people in this state.

This is the key to the defeat of the Broyles Bills in 1953. Protest, movement, action!

ALREADY there are indications of the broadest kind of struggle to defeat these bills this year. The organizations that has testified against the bills and taken a stand against them at this point represent hundreds of thousands of people in this state.

This movement will grow in the coming weeks. It can come to a great climax which can result in a crushing defeat for these fascist-like bills at any point along the line.

It is possible that the Senate will pass the bills—if the opposition is not fully developed by the time the vote comes.

But we will then have to make the fight in the House—for full hearings, for a gain in opposition votes and finally for the defeat of the bills.

This outlook means a battle for every vote in the legislature. It means resolutions, letters, petitions, delegations.

THERE may be some in the trade unions, community organizations and elsewhere who have already thrown up their hands in defeat. Such pessimism plays into the hands of Sen. Paul Broyles and the other tin-horn McCarthys who are trying to create just the kind of an atmosphere of defeatism.

Broyles himself disclosed at the recent Senate committee hearing that he was anxious to rush these bills through in order not to give the opposition time to develop.

Yes, speed is important. The fight must be carried into the shops and mass organizations and into the neighborhoods at once.

And the people will respond. The recent wave of fight-back against the McCarthys and Veldes and McCarthys should alert us to the fact that the tide is beginning to turn.

If we explain the meaning of the vicious Broyles Bills to the people they will join us actively in this fight.

THE BREADTH and intensity of the struggle will determine not only whether these bills will pass, but also what happens in Illinois, if they should pass.

Yes, it is true that these bills violate the Constitution. But the courts will outlaw them only if the popular opposition to these bills reaches tremendous heights.

These bills are based on a lie. Their entire shaky structure of thought control and tyranny is founded on the myth of a "communist conspiracy." That "conspiracy" doesn't exist and there is not a single overt act by the Communist Party of Illinois or any other state in support of the accusations in these bills.

Among the broad range of opponents of these bills there are many attitudes toward the Communist Party. But any readiness to accept these unfounded charges against the Communist Party can only weaken the struggle against these bills.

WHAT must be obvious is the fact that the struggle for civil liberties is indivisible. And every foe of civil liberties, from Clamage to McCarthy, has already shown that the attack that begins against the Communists very readily envelopes all those who dissent from extreme reactionary views.

That fact reveals why it is possible and imperative that the Broyles Bills be defeated. The issue here is whether democracy in this state will be destroyed! And who can dare to be passive in such a fight—or accept defeat without the kind of struggle that the pro-Broyles forces will never forget?

## NAACP Bares Jimcrow in Broyles' Town

CHICAGO.—State Sen. Paul Broyles, author of the notorious thought-control bills, has been told where to find subversive activities—in his home town of Mount Vernon, Ill.

Some examples of jimcrow in Broyles' town were recounted at a conference here last weekend by Paul Thurlow, state chairman of the National Asso-

ciation for the Advancement of Colored People.

Thurlow described the only transportation in the town as cars in which there are special rules for Negroes. If a Negro is riding in one of these cars and a white person wants to ride, the Negro has to move up front with the driver.

If the car becomes loaded in

back, then the Negro must get out and wait for the next car.

One Negro minister reported that in trying to get to a meeting one evening, he had to change cars three times.

Broyles' Southern Illinois town of Mount Vernon "takes the prize" in segregation and discrimination," Thurlow declared.



ILLINOIS  
DUSABLE  
EDITION

## The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1953

# Tenant Pleas Are Ignored

CHICAGO—The Chicago City Council and the Illinois Legislature have thrown the tenants to the wolves.

The two bodies invited sky high rents here, closing off possibilities of local controls if and when federal controls expire.

Trade unionists, who have carried the main fight for local controls, this week saw three possible avenues of struggle to prevent disaster here:

1. Fighting for federal controls beyond the October 1-time limit which has been set by administration forces in Washington.

2. Demanding that Chicago be classified as a critical housing area with full rent controls.

3. Securing reconsideration by the Legislature of its action last Monday which killed a bill allowing for local controls.

DEFYING the mass appeals and delegations which have been going into Springfield since the rent control crisis began, the Legislature "tabled" the Lynch Bill and voted instead for a measure to delay evictions.

The CIO Packinghouse Workers District One warned that workers will be taking what amounts to a wage cut if controls die and that "unlimited rent increases and evictions will be the

order of the day."

The union declared: "We workers serve notice that we will not tolerate any further infringement on our rights. We are already pushed to walls with high rents, no service, illegal overcharges and evictions, as well as the pitiful and disgusting conditions of housing in this city and especially on the South Side."

A DELEGATION of 27 unionists, led by UE's Sidney L. Ordower, went into Springfield last Thursday to demand that Gov. Stratton come out for continued controls.

However, the Governor's floor leaders killed the control bill last Monday a few hours after the Chicago City Council refused to approve a resolution asking the Legislature to okay the bill.

The hatchet job on the control resolution in the City Council was done by Ald. Reginald DuBois, a violent racist and opponent of housing. However, Republicans and Democrats joined in defeating the measure.

The administration-backed bill provides for a stay of eviction in certain cases but carries with it an automatic 10 percent increase in rents.



THE callous butchering of rent control in the City Council and in the State Legislature can become the basis for political action now.

There are tenants in Alderman DuBois' 9th Ward who are ready to settle accounts with this realty trust agent. And that goes for the wards where other aldermen participated in the Council's betrayal on rent lids.

And what a movement can be developed by the tenants of the 9th Senatorial District, misrepresented by State Senator Arthur E. Larson.

There are political action groups already in existence in these areas, CIO-PACs open to all residents in the community. And other action groups can be formed.

The rent betrayal can mark the opening of the 1954 political campaign.

THERE are fresh new opportunities in the fight for peace.

A sample of this trend was the Loop peace polling last weekend by the Chicago Women for Peace.

This group has been out consistently with petitions and leaflets during the recent months. But last Saturday, they reported, they got the most signatures and the best response.

Petitioners who signed up 80 people on Washington Boulevard say: "There is now hope among the people."

THE RECENT appointment of an anti-housing housing administrator in Washington has been described as "hiring a wolf to tend the sheep."

Another example of that was the election of Wilfred Sykes, chairman of the board of Inland Steel, as chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority.

Sykes took over after Wayne McMillen resigned. His record as one of the CHA commissioners has been one of constant obstruction.

His company, Inland Steel, has built a large community of homes in East Chicago for employees. Negroes and Mexican-Americans are barred.

## Fightin' for The Worker . . .

Some 250 Worker boosters and their friends turned out for the Freedom of the Press banquet last week. They paid tribute to a great people's writer, Howard Fast, and pledged to do everything possible to win hundreds of additional Worker readers by the end of the campaign on April 15.

Herb March, organizer for Local 347 of the United Packinghouse Workers who acted as Master of Ceremonies at the banquet, presented Eugene Heslop known as "Mr. Daily Worker" with a gift in the name of the Illinois Committee for Freedom of the Press. Heslop was honored for 23 years of devoted service in circulating the Daily Worker on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Fred Pinkard, who read Neruda's poem, "to Howard Fast," presented Fast with a token gift in appreciation of his great service to the paper and

BOX SCORE (As of March 30)	
Subs turned in	1330
Bundle Sales	1240

to the progressive movement.

Two community areas made the 100 percent target set for the banquet. They are the Southeast area which brought in 16 subs Saturday for a total of 101 of their goal of 100 and the Northwest Side which now has 51 subs in of a goal of 50. Northwest also increased their bundle circulation and is now taking 36 papers a week.

Lake Street community still leads in subscription achievement with 114 percent. The 9th Congressional area is only four short of their goal. Southwest is nine short and the West Side has turned in a total of 112 subs which is 75 percent of the quota set for themselves.

Only days remain from the time this paper reaches you to the end of the current circulation campaign. Much can still be done.

There are still quite a number of subs which have expired and have not yet been renewed. Worker boosters can make sure that every former subscriber is visited and given the opportunity to renew.

A number of worker boosters have shown how easy it is to get new subs. If expiring cards have been used up and you and your friends are wondering where next sub is coming from, there are neighbors, other friends, relatives and shopmates. Show them the paper and get them to subscribe.

We now stand at 67 percent of our overall goal. With heightened activity we can reach 100 percent in a number of other areas and come within striking distance in the Illinois campaign.



# Peace Knocks at Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN PITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profiters, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganning prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1—Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2—The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3—Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4—The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5—Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6—Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese  
(Continued on Page 13)

**PENNA.  
EDITION**

## The Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XVIII, No. 14  
16 Pages

28

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

## Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will lie tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 2-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bring about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

## 'Why Did These Kids Have to Die?'

By BERNARD BURTON

THE PROSPECT OF PEACE in Korea brought the jitters to Washington and new hope to young men living under the shadow of death in Korea. "Believe this reporter," wrote the New York Daily News' Washington columnist, John O'Donnell, "our leaders in both parties got the jitters today figuring out what would happen to our economy if voters and our next Congress called a halt on war-economy spending."

Peace was viewed as a "threat" in Washington. Said O'Donnell: "Peace in the shooting war in Korea threatens to break out at any moment."

In Korea, however, men welcomed this "threat." It made sense and brought new hope to battle-shocked GIs who had only recently been drawn back from the fruitless attacks on Old Baldy, a poor excuse for a hill a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. A Washington columnist, such as O'Donnell, can sit around coldly weighing the pros and cons of peace in Korea.

IT IS a little more difficult for a combat correspondent in Korea even though his politics may not differ from O'Donnell's. War and peace often get tangled up with human emotions. Dead GIs as well as live ones often get into the story from Korea where peace is viewed as a blessing, not a "threat."

In the New York World-Telegram of March 27 it was the dead



American soldiers in Korea.

GIs who got into Jim C. Lucas' story—the dead of Old Baldy. "You look at them," wrote Lucas, "and you ask yourself, 'why did these kids have to die?' And you are ashamed because you don't know the answer."

Lucas keeps probing for the answer in his dispatch, the sort of answer he could give if one of those kids asked him for an answer. He says, "I guess I know, deep inside," the reason—the kind of "reason" which his publisher and the Daily News' publisher have been spouting for three death-filled spring seasons in Korea. But Lucas doesn't feel he can give that kind of reason to the kids in Korea.

"If those boys under those brown wool blankets," he writes, "on those bloody stretchers sat up and asked me why they died on Old Baldy, I'd have to answer: 'I don't know, Mac. I just don't know.'"

THE SCRPPS-HOWARD writer

gets a glimpse of the truth but doesn't probe it very far. "We've lost thousands of men in the fight against tyranny during the last 10 years. But in the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for. . . . Sure, it was tough losing them but there was a reason for it. And—since there was a reason—men achieved dignity in death. "When a man is asked to die, he deserves to know why. It should be for more than for Baldy, or for prestige, or to buy a stalemate."

THE SOLDIERS—the dead and the quick—got into the Times also on March 27, in a dispatch from the front, from Robert W. Alden: "The fight for Old Baldy is," wrote Alden, "as a professional soldier might say, 'a rough go.' These men who are fighting for us are not professional soldiers. They are for the most part farm boys, students and clerks. They want to live very

(Continued on Page 13)

## HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

### 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In this Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



## THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION

# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers' convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to meet Wall Street's new chal-



WALTER REUTHER

lenge," consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1956 election. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment," with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the precinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution

is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

A speech by Reuther in which he set forth the basic conditions of the CIO for the scheduled merger negotiations, was seized upon by Meany who said that "the odds are against" unity and attacked the CIO head for discussing the issues in public prior to the talks.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A roll-call showed 812 hands for a rollcall. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International GEB's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

"I don't like the way these cases are reported," said William Bradley of Local 761, Indianapolis. "Some of these reports sound like management talking. I am president of my local and when a man says he gave notice I'll back him to the hilt."

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal wire from the President.

## Negro Cop Suspended For Arresting White

JUSTICE is far from being blind-color blind, that is-when it comes to dealing with acts of policemen.

Consider the fate of Private Norman F. Allison, a 37-year-old Negro policeman in Washington, D.C., who last week arrested a white woman motorist for driving illegally and dangerously on Bennington Road. A companion and Pvt. Allison were in plain clothes and in a police cruise car. After stopping the weaving driver, and identifying themselves as officers, the offending driver reportedly loosed a flow of abusive language. She protested that she didn't want "a n—r to put his hands" on her, refused to show her license or car registration.

The two Negro officers, sensing the explosive situation in the nation's capital, called in white officers to complete the arrest.

Pvt. Allison's fellow officer, Pvt. Milton Taylor, also a Negro, went along to the 9th Precinct to book the traffic violator on charges of weaving traffic, and failing to identify herself and her automobile. When Pvt. Allison called to pick up Taylor, their superior officer, Capt. Lewis Peters, expressed angry disapproval of the Negro policemen's arrest of a white woman. Allison vocally objected to Capt. Lewis' biased attitude and was immediately suspended pending action by Police Chief Robert V. Murray.

IN BALTIMORE, Mrs. Bernice Wilkins, a 22-year-old Negro housewife, was asked by a white man to repair his car. She refused to do so, and was arrested by a white policeman.

pass through her apartment to get onto an adjoining roof. She refused. The repairman returned a little later with two white policemen, Sgt. John Dunn and Officer Bernard Zilinski. Mrs. Wilkins stood her ground, asserting her right not to allow her home to be used as a public thoroughfare. The two cops set upon Mrs. Wilkins, clad only in a robe and a housecoat, tore her clothes from her and dragged her to the police station, leaving three children, aged from three months to five years, unattended with a gas stove burning.

Several hours later Mrs. Wilkins was acquitted of the "disorderly conduct" charge and returned to her children.

After mass indignation and protests by the Negro community, Commissioner Beverly Ober (who had ruled the Wilkins arrest "justified"), said the police had erred in charging the housewife with being disorderly. The charge should have been, he said, "assaulting an officer."

Now Mrs. Wilkins and her attorneys are seeking federal redress under federal civil rights laws.

### SUE FOR BACK PAY

LOS ANGELES (FP).—Local 770, Retail Clerks International Association, AFL filed 31 suits in superior court, demanding \$487,000 in back pay from supermarket operators on grounds that they engaged in wage agreements.

The suits were filed in January, 1950, and are the first of a series of suits filed by the union against supermarket operators.

## POINT of ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Max

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

## THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

### Meany's Dim View on Unity

### Electric Plant Votes AFL

GEORGE Meany, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jimcrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,591 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric, outsting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzler to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the ILA. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket

line. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 50,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopener. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringes. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they gave the decision at a membership meeting April 3. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

THE CIO's executive board meeting on April 6 is expected to give an OK to the appointment of John Riffe of the steel union as executive vice-president of the organization, the vacancy left by Allan S. Haywood. . . . The first issue of Steel Labor since David J. McDonald was inaugurated president shows, covering its entire front cover, a two-color photo of an artist member of the union putting the finishing touches to a photo-of David J. McDonald.

## Use Ammo Scare for New Anti-Labor Laws

By ELIHU S. HICKS

THE RECENT Washington furor about an alleged shortage of ammunition in Korea was exposed last week as a cover for new legislation to be introduced in Congress to further restrict labor's right to strike.

A headline in the Friday, March 27 issue of the New York Journal-American provided the tipoff. The headline read: "37 Percent Cut in Ammunition Blamed on Steel Strike." Accusing Truman of maintaining a "coddle labor" policy during his administration, Congressmen Smith (R-Kan), Van Zandt (R-Pa), and Hoffman (R-Mich) claimed that last year's steel strike, the Sovell Brass strike led by the CIO-UAW and the International Harvester strike led by UE caused serious cuts in ammunition deliveries.

General Van Fleet, who made the claims of "shortages" before the House Armed Services Committee, said that General Mark Clark and former Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett had attributed the "situation" to the strikes.

Screaming that the Truman Administration had "let the defense labor leaders ahead of defense

needs during World War II and now in Korea," Rep. Van Zandt called for a Congressional investigation and indicated that he would introduce more legislation to cripple labor.

Politically conscious labor leaders all throughout the country are preparing for the next offensives by Big Business—begun already in the Taft-Hartley hearings—to do away with the right to strike altogether.

The Van Fleet charges also pointed up the fact that the Korean war is and has always been directly in contradiction with the interests of labor.

### HIT RACKETEERING

VANCOUVER, B. C. (FP).—After disclosure of racketeering involving top officers of the International Longshoremen's Assn. (ILA) in New York, the Vancouver local voted to switch to the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

### COMPERS SCHOOL

SAN DIEGO, Cal. (FP).—The newest high school in this city will be named for Samuel Compers, labor leader ahead of defense



## Rep. Walter 'Resents' a Button

BETHLEHEM.—Francis Walter, (D-Pa.) co-author of the racist McCarran-Walter Act, who misrepresents Bethlehem steelworkers in Congress, "resents" the growing demand to fire former FBI agent, Congressman Velde, (R-Ill.) as chairman of the House Un-American Committee.

Walter, ranking Democrat on the Un-American Committee, told a California witness who wore a "Fire Velde" button at a recent hearing: "It's contemptuous, and I resent it very much."

Rep. Walter is reported here to be alarmed that the move to "Fire

Velde" may spread to "Fire Walter."

TEN ANTI-SEMITIC teen-aged gangsters were jailed in Philadelphia last week for attacking two young Jewish boys.

The victims, aged 14 and 17, were suddenly set upon by the gang on their way home on North Tenth St. last January 26.

FOREIGN-BORN: Five more workers were arrested in Philadelphia last week on deportation charges as the Immigration Service threatened further persecution of the foreign born.



REP. WALTER

### A Negro Judge

# Alexander Flays Demo Leaders

PHILADELPHIA.—Democratic Party leaders have been publicly condemned in City Council for failure to nominate a Negro for a Common Pleas judgeship. Raymond Pace Alexander, noted attorney, and the city's only Negro councilman, took the floor on a point

of personal privilege, and in a speech that is still rocking this city charged the Democratic leaders, with an "intolerable affront to the 400,000 Negro citizens of this city," for slating only two Negroes out of 24 candidates, and those two "for the lowest office on the ticket." Alexander had himself filed for the judgeship, but withdrew when no Negro got Democratic backing for the May 19 primary, and declared: "I will continue my fight as representative of my people within the Democratic party—not outside the party."

COUNCILMAN ALEXANDER's speech won virtually unanimous support in the Negro community.

The Philadelphia Tribune, noted that the Republicans, "too, refused to endorse a Negro for the Common Pleas Court. . . . Both parties apparently agree that no Negro will ever become a Common Pleas judge. . . . The time is ripe to begin an organized effort. . . ."

Meanwhile, Robert Lawson, a Negro slated by the Democrats for magistrate, was forced to withdraw because of "faulty petitions." The Pittsburgh Courier notes:

"This is the first time in the history of local politics that a slated candidate has been forced to withdraw because he did not have sufficient legal signers on his petitions."

The Tribune reports "This is the second 'sudden death' of the aspirations of Negroes for magistracies this year," and points out that Mrs. Hannah Byrd, a Republican and former magistrate, found herself suddenly "400 names short" when she attempted to file for the primary race.

### Is This News?

BOSSES are less likely to break down than workers, doctors were told at a recent St. Louis medical meet. Is this news? a reader asks The Pennsylvania Worker.

## Labor Turns Out For Rent Control

PHILADELPHIA.—The CIO Public Affairs chairman in Philadelphia, declared in his statement: "THE HEALTH, welfare, and living standards of 250,000 families—which is about one-half of our city's population, depend upon the passage of an effective rent control law."

Pointing out that these families will be caught in a trap if rent controls are not continued, the Communist Party statement stressed that Negro families would be especially hard hit. The statement urged passage of ordinance 147, with stronger enforcement provisions and a fight for state and federal funds for more extensive public housing.

In supporting the ordinance, the Progressive Party proposed amendments for strengthening the bill, and urged passage of an enabling act by the state legislature.

Grinder Killed

A GRINDER was killed almost instantly at the Vulcan Iron Works, Wilkes-Barre when part of his abrasive wheel broke and pierced his chest.

## A MOTHER'S HORROR

PHILADELPHIA.—The horror felt by many parents at the atomic blast demonstration televised from Nevada recently is expressed in a letter signed "A Mother" in the Philadelphia Inquirer. The letter says, in part:

"As we watched the explosion of the latest atomic bomb, my children asked me whether the

men who dropped it weren't afraid of blowing up the whole world. . . . the answer I had to give them sounded hollow even to me. "If our cities are blasted and laid waste and most of the people die, will the survivors learn to live in peace with each other, or will they start down the same old path of hatred and fear?"

# STEVE NELSON IN PHILLY ON APRIL 11

PHILADELPHIA.—A call to a conference to preserve our civil liberties, the key to social and economic progress has been issued by the Pennsylvania Civil Rights Congress to all those who work for a better world.

The conference will be held Saturday, April 11, from 11 a.m.

to 4 p.m. in the Philadelphia Room, Reynolds Hall, 1416 North Broad St.

Pointing out that the defense of the rights of the Communists is the first line of defense of all Americans, the call said, "the denial of the Bill of Rights to Communists established a time of re-

ference by which all who oppose official government policy are measured. It is but a short and rapid step from Communists to those who 'think like Communists.'"

Civil Rights Congress spokesmen explained that the major issues to be taken up at the Conference will be the fight against

## KING COAL

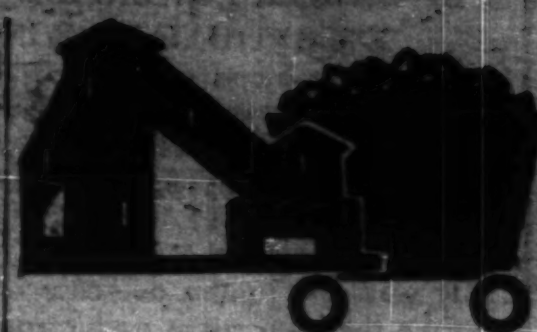
## Lock Out 6,000 Hard Coal Men

LOCKOUT.—Six thousand Panther Valley miners were locked out March 25 by the Lehigh Navigation Coal Co. Company officials blamed the shut-down on a strike of 400 operating railroad workers which tied up the company-owned freight line, the Lehigh and New England Railroad.

The company has been stalling since February, 1952 on negotiations over working conditions and payments the union claimed under the existing contract. C. H. Keenan, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Trainmen, and M. N. Blystone, deputy president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, were directing the strike.

CURRENT SHUTDOWNS of anthracite collieries were compared by District 9 (UMWA) president Joseph Kershetsky to the "Dark Thirties," when many collieries were abandoned. Kershetsky spoke at a largely attended meeting of the Shenandoah General Mine Board, which had previously urged more energetic leadership by top union leaders in the present mine crisis.

District and international union officials continue a daily check on Anthracite mine developments, Kershetsky said. He referred to



local criticism as unfair and unjust. A rising vote of thanks was extended to Kershetsky and Lester Thomas, union state legislative representative.

SHUT DOWN of the Tomhicken colliery near Drifton was announced last week. "Bootleg" coal from non-union operations is contributing to poor working time at Anthracite collieries, the Locust Summit General Mine Committee has charged. Last year, over two million tons of anthracite, 5 percent of total production, was produced in non-union mines.

WELFARE: Ten hospitals with 1,040 beds for miners and their families have just been contracted for by the United Mine Workers Welfare and Retirement Fund to be built in the coal areas of West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky. Cost may approximate \$15 millions.

## THOMES URGES UNITY

(Continued from Page 16)

McDonald, were adopted unanimously.

A resolution on FEPC brought some fireworks from several delegates, which bared the fact that while we give lip service to the FEPC program, in our own locals we do not practice it, but permit the management to "get around" upgrading Negroes.

Finally a committee on resolutions' substitute was adopted on FEPC instead of the original resolution submitted by a local union.

A SHORTCOMING of the conference was that it did not raise the question of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Law; it did not raise the question of the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, and it did not stress the struggle against the evils of injunctions that are breaking out like a rash—in strikes.

Of course the lack of greater political clarity must be laid at the door of the top leadership of the United Steelworkers. During the Cvetic "exposures" of the "Communists" in the Pittsburgh area, they accepted the word of this notorious stoolpigeon against steelworkers who built the union in the Homestead, Duquesne and McKeesport area.

Those accused by Cvetic were summarily removed from their posts in the local unions, in some cases even forbidden to attend their local union meetings, and in one case prohibited from the picket lines in the last steel strike.

DELEGATES FROM some of the locals talked over the question why they did not have a resolution on the McCarran-Walter Immigration Law, as it will affect their membership, the majority of whom are foreign born. The danger was pointed out that in the event of a sharp struggle, the "Man in the White House" could declare the strike "mimical to the National Interests" issue an order of deportation against all foreign-born steel

workers; and thus try to break the strike.

Steelworkers are certainly interested in the question and would support the move for repeal.

A Worker.

## Rap Plan to Cut Public Services

HARRISBURG.—Wide opposition is developing against the so-called "Little Hooverville" recommendations of a committee set up by Gov. Fine. The group proposes to slice off a hundred million dollars from state expenditures, mostly from educational, health, relief, welfare and other public services.

Prior to the hearings that opened here last week, the United Mine Workers has denounced the plan to close up hospitals in the mine area. Other proposals arousing strong opposition is a cut of over five million yearly in state aid to schools.

COMMITTEE chairman Francis J. Chesterman, inspirer of these economy suggestions, is an old hand at clipping the public. The company over which he is president, BeA Telephone of Pennsylvania, reported an increase in revenue last year of \$10,463,122 over 1951—the highest figure in its history.

At the same time a 100 percent increase in local telephone rates was obtained, with rate increase all around for all telephone services on the grounds that the company was not making enough profits.

## 2 Pieces of Scrapple

HARRISBURG.—Prisoners' demands for four pieces of scrapple instead of two led to two protest demonstrations here recently.

- For a Living Bill of Rights.
- Defeat Mussolinism, Pennsylvania's McCarthyism.
- Annul the 30-year sentence of Steve Nelson.
- Drop the Smith Act indictments.

Speakers at the conference will be Steve Nelson and William L.

Patterson. Labor, civil liberties and church leaders have also been invited to address the conference.

The conference will close with a mass meeting which will start at 8:15 p.m. to which the public will be invited. Steve Nelson



# 37,566 Killed or Wounded in Mines

By WALTER LOWENFELS

EVERYTHING DECLINED in the coal industry last year, except the blood on the operators' profits.

Thirty-seven thousand five hundred and sixty-six are listed as wounded or killed in the mines during 1952.

This ghastly figure is actually a slight decrease over the previous year.

However, that decrease, of 2.3 percent, is only apparent. It was due to the decrease of a hundred million hours in the time the men spent underground.

The rate of injury for the 37,020 wounded, and 546 killed, took a sensational upward leap of 13 percent.

Out of each million tons of coal mined, 74.39 men were killed or wounded last year, compared to 66.67 the year before.

The increased profits to the operators from this terrible annual toll is felt by the miner, not in terms of millions of dollars, as they appear in the company books, but in the increased productivity that was squeezed out of each miner's life and death.

Here, the Bureau of Mines preliminary survey, issued

March 25, from which our figures are taken, reveals each miner produced an average of 7,362 tons in 1952 compared to 6,862 tons per man day in 1951.

These figures mean that operators did not lose because total coal production declined (from 576,335,000 tons to 564,874,000 tons); or because the total number of miners at work dropped (by 32,000 from 453,600 to 421,500); or because the average number of days each miner worked decreased (from 210.3 days to 196.6).

On the contrary, the figures mean that while fewer men worked less time, and the nation's coal production went down by 72 million tons, the operators got more coal out of each hour each miner worked, and squeezed more dollars out of each casualty they suffered.

It is any wonder that the financiers who dominate the coal industry such as George Humphrey, Secretary of the Treasury, himself a leading coal operator, are anxious to "liberate" countries in the socialist world that no longer produce such "profit" statistics?

## Shop Talk



**WESTINGHOUSE WORKERS** won reinstatement last week of the gear fitter whose discharge led to the recent week-long strike of 7,000 members Local 107 Electrical Workers (independent). John V. Monaghan, union president, charged the company had "profanely violated" the contract and forced strike for a grievance that could have been settled without workers losing pay.

**GAS WORKERS** in Philly finally voted 1704 to 506 to accept a 6 percent wage boost, plus other benefits. The agreement with the Morgan-controlled monopoly followed the first strike this independent union ever took.

**GENERAL ELECTRIC** Workers voted at a meeting in the Elmwood Roller-Rink to strike if necessary to win their demands for a 21-cent an hour wage boost. Company has offered equivalent of two and three-quarters cents. They are members of CIO-IUE, which is negotiating nationally under a wage-reopener.

**A STRIKE** in department stores was narrowly averted during Easter when AFL Building Service Workers voted 169-119, with more than a score abstaining, to accept increases of \$2.50 weekly for elevator operators, porters and watchmen, and \$2 for maids and cleaners. Eleven center-city stores previously offered only \$1.50 and \$1 increases. Wages are still low—\$49 and \$39 weekly.

**NIGHT CLUBS** locked out show workers last week over a union demand for a health and welfare plan that would cost club operators \$2.50 weekly per performer and would classify them as workers, not "independent contractors." They are members of the AFL American Guild of Variety Artists.

**LETTER CARRIERS** didn't like the way the Bulletin magnified the story of two children locked, without harm, in a storage box, and protested to the paper. They are members of Branch 157, National Association of Letter Carriers.

## Labor Faces FEPC Fight

By ROBERT HARDT

**HARRISBURG.** — Pennsylvania's billionaire industrialists, labor's worst enemies, have ganged up against a state Fair Employment Practices Commission. They have given orders to their political agents, starting with Gov. Fine, to scuttle passage of an FEPC law at this legislative session, as they have for the past decade.

They have given orders that the billionaire press is to continue reporting FEPC in Pennsylvania as a "Negro issue" rather than a "labor issue."

Meanwhile the coal and steel barons are knifing FEPC as a spearhead in their overall anti-labor offensive.

**THE FACT** that the Mellon and Morgan and allied financial interests are plotting to deal labor a serious blow on the FEPC issue in Pennsylvania is no secret in the capital.

A hint of it crept into a Negro weekly, Afro-American. A story this week, headlined, "Republicans Ready to Knife FEPC," reported:

"The chilly attitude of the politicians reflects industry's attitude."

**SPECIFIC CHARGES** have been leveled by leaders of the State Council for an FEPC at public meetings, that the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association, Hotel Men's Association and similar big business groups are fighting FEPC. Their charges have been completely suppressed by the billionaire press.

The report of Gov. Fine's Industrial Race Relations Commission that over 90 percent of Pennsylvania firms discriminate in hiring and upgrading has not softened up company opposition to FEPC.

On the contrary the Manufacturers Association has used the widespread publicity the report got to further their own overall program—to divide, weaken and smash Pennsylvania's powerful labor movement.

**THE SUPPORT** for FEPC in Pennsylvania by CIO, AFL, miners, independent unions, and 1,300 church, liberal and civic groups,

### WHAT TO DO

Petitions and other material on FEPC is available through unions and civic groups and from the State Council for a Pennsylvania FEPC, Fellowship Building, 260 S. 15 St., Philadelphia.

Messages, letters, resolutions and visits are proposed to all state Senators and Representatives, along with demands for an open hearing on FEPC in Harrisburg.

has not "won over" the Morgans and the Mellons.

On the contrary, they have made defeat of FEPC this year the spearhead of their Taft-Hartleyite, injunction-its program against labor in Pennsylvania.

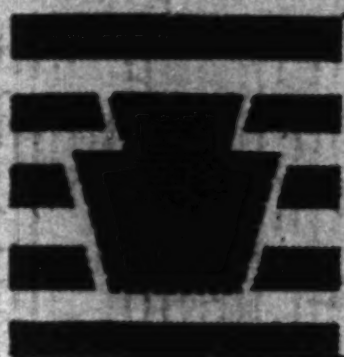
**WHITE WORKERS** need to make FEPC the spearhead of their immediate political action, according to observers here.

It is believed that an all-out mobilization, led by white as well as Negro workers, can smash the manufacturers anti-labor offensive.

Otherwise the bills for FEPC, now bottled up in the committee here, are doomed and the Taft-Hartleyite big companies will have struck a serious blow at all labor.

**A READING TEAMSTER** got a letter from Drew Pearson charging that concentration of radio network ownership in big money hands made "it increasingly difficult for a commentator who sometimes disagrees to stay on the air." Pearson's final broadcast was last Sunday night.

**MONEY:** A 12½c wage boost, their first in nearly 2½ years, is slated May 25 for 17,000 CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers in the Philly area. A national agreement was worked out in New York affecting 150,000 workers. Average hourly ACW pay in Philly area is estimated at \$1.50-\$1.55 by Charles Weinstein, manager of the union's Joint Board.



**PENNA.  
EDITION**

## The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1953

A Pittsburgh Steelworker Writes . . .

## Thomas Urges Unity, Delegates Applaud

Pittsburgh House we must close our ranks as never before."

His plea for unity and for the organization of the unorganized was applauded by all the delegates. The whole tone of his report was sounding an alarm to the membership to be prepared to repel attacks upon their wages, conditions and the living standards of their families. There was no attempt at any red-baiting. Stress was laid on the struggle for FEPC, rent-control, and struggle for democratic rights.

Resolutions commemorating the memory of Phillip Murray, commending the work of Mr. Thomas, pledging support to the new CIO Steelworkers president,

HE INFORMED the delegates that: "with that man in the White

(Continued on Page 15)

April 11 in Philadelphia . . .

## Nelson Dines with Press Builders —Will Speak at Rights Rallies

**STEVE NELSON** has been invited to address a press conference supper Saturday, April 11, the Philadelphia Freedom of the Press Association has announced. Admission is free to association supporters who have obtained two or more combination subscriptions to the Daily Worker and Pennsylvania Worker, or four Pennsylvania Worker subs.

Nelson's first public appearances in Philadelphia since his release on bail while appealing his 20-year "sedition" sentence will be April 11, in Reynolds Hall, 1416

N. Broad St., under Civil Rights Congress auspices, follow:

• Saturday afternoon, April 11, 1 to 4 o'clock, at a Conference for a Living Bill of Rights.

• Saturday evening, April 11, 8:15, at an all-out freedom rally. William L. Patterson, CRC leader, will also speak.

The press conference and supper at which Nelson has been invited to speak was announced as a high point in the final push to go over the top in the current subscription campaign for The Pennsylvania Worker.

Greet

**The PENNSYLVANIA  
WORKER  
THIS MAY DAY!**

Please print the attached greetings in \_\_\_\_\_ inch box. Enclosed find \_\_\_\_\_ at \$5 per inch. Please print the attached list of names. Enclosed find \$\_\_\_\_\_ at 25¢ per name. Attach message and names.

All greetings **MUST** be in no later than Thursday, April 16. The May Day issue will be dated Sunday, April 26, 1953.

Send Greetings to: Pennsylvania Worker Box 5544, Philadelphia 43, Pa.

## PHILLY Greets STEVE NELSON

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11 — Conference, 1 P.M.  
REYNOLDS HALL, 1416 N. BROAD ST.**

Hear Liberal and Labor Leaders for A Living Bill of Rights

**RALLY — 8:30 P.M.**

**Pennsylvania  
Edition of  
THE WORKER**

Box 5544, Philadelphia 43, Pa.



# Peace Knocks at the Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN PITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profiters, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganing prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off-guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1—Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2—The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3—Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4—The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5—Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6—Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese (Continued on Page 15)



NEW JERSEY  
EDITION

The Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XVIII, No. 14  
16 Pages

26

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

## Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will lie tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 2-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bring about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

## Here's What to Do to Fight the Rent Steal

What tenants can do to prevent the 15 percent rent steal from going into effect May 1:

1. Flood Mayor Impellitteri and the Board of Estimate with demands that (a) they call on Gov. Dewey to include rents on the agenda of the special session of the legislature he plans for late May or early June, and (b) demand that the Governor immediately declare a moratorium on any rent increases pending the special session.

2. Wire Gov. Dewey and get the tenants in your house to wire him or write him with the same demands the Mayor and Board of Estimates are being requested to make of him; wire or write your legislators asking they throw their support behind such demands.

3. Urge immediate enactment of a city rent law, telling the Mayor and the City Council that this need not be stymied by legal considerations, that the city can demand enabling legislation from Albany if rents are added to the special session's agenda.

4. Pending enactment of a city rent law or repeal of the new landlord bill and extension of the old rent control law, urge your tenants' council or lodge, union or other organization to call on the people of New York to withhold rent increases pending

(Continued on Page 15)

### Mayor to Present Dewey Squeeze Plan

## First Round Tuesday on N. Y. Fare Hike

—See Page 2

### HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

## 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In this Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



## Mayer to Present Dewey Plan to Board of Estimate

# First Round Tuesday On N. Y. Fare Hike

By MICHAEL SINGER

THE STAGE IS SET for the biggest public debate ever to rock City Hall. First round of the fiscal battle will begin Tuesday when Mayor Impellitteri stooges for Gov. Dewey in presenting to the Board of Estimate the city's 1953-54 budget with its higher-

locked 8-8 and the whole fiscal gouge bottled up. (See open letter to Joseph, page 16).

The Board's action can either stymie the Dewey-Impellitteri soak-the-poor conspiracy or unleash a series of budget blows that will cost each resident more than \$156 each year. It all depends on three men: Comptroller Laarus Joseph, City Council President Rudolph Halley and Borough President Robert F. Wagner, Jr., of Manhattan.

There are 16 votes on the Board. Halley and Wagner have already indicated their opposition to the authority and its 15 to 25 cent fare increase threat. Should Joseph, who is on the fence, join them the Board would be dead-

locked 8-8 and the whole fiscal gouge bottled up. (See open letter to Joseph, page 16).

BETWEEN now and Tuesday, the people of New York City have an opportunity to deluge the Mayor with protests against the fare scheme and press Joseph to join the opposition. But suppose the Dewey-Impellitteri plan goes through?

The next round comes up during budget hearings which the mayor's office and the Board of Estimate secretary have announced as on April 13, 14, 15.

These three-day hearings will undoubtedly attract the biggest attendance since the fare debates in

1947. The 15-cent fare which will steal from \$60 to \$90 a year more from the average family and the Authority fare gouge that will rob from \$36 to a possible \$78 annually from each straphanger, head the "NO" list of public demands. Added to these vicious Wall Street moves are the payroll tax threat of .5 percent of each weekly wage that would cut salaries from \$10 to \$80 a year from the average worker, the taxes on other consumer activities, and the wholesale reduction of transit services, mass firings of key city personnel and heavy slashes in municipal functions affecting the life,

(Continued on Page 15)

## THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION

# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers' convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching affect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to "meet Wall Street's new challenge," consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1956 elections. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment" with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the pre-



WALTER REUTHER

cinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand-

vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A retally showed 812 hands for a rollcall. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International CEB's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal wire from the President.

## POINT OF ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Max

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

## THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

### • Meany's Dim View on Unity • Electric Plant Votes AFL

THE FIRST MAJOR industry strike on a nationwide scale began Thursday with a shut-down of the United States Rubber's 19 plants under contract with the United Rubber Workers, CIO, employing 35,000 workers. When a one-day extension of the pact expired and no agreement was announced from Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, where negotiations are still on, pickets closed the plants across the nation.

Wages are not involved. The deadlock was over hospitalization, pensions and length of contract. The company, largest in the tire and rubber field, operates plants in Detroit, Nagsack, Conn., Passaic and North Bergen, N.J., Los Angeles, Fort Wayne, Eau Claire, Wis., Milan, Tenn., Mishawaka, Ind., Cicopee Fall Mass., and Woonsocket and Providence, R.I.

GEORGE Meany, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jimmicrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,591 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric, outsting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with

George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzer to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the I.L.A. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket lines. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 50,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopener. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringes. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they give the decision at a membership meeting April 8. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

## Strike Vote April 8 Set by Macy Workers

By ELIHU S. HICKS

IF THE BOSSES of Macy's department store insist on calling their workers' demands for higher wages, shorter hours, etc., "outrageous," rather than sensibly working out a contract to replace the one that expired last week, they may be faced with a strike. That's what the 8,000-odd members of Local 15, United Department Store Workers of America (CIO) told Macy's last week, and they are scheduled to take a strike vote on April 8 just to cross the "T."

In simultaneous before-work picket lines around each of the five Macy stores Wednesday morning, about 4,000 of the workers appealed to the public to support them in their fight. The day before, Local 15 president, Sam Kovenetsky, told 350 Macy shop stewards, section and district leaders that they might well have to

strike in order to maintain a minimum standard of living. The rank and file leaders responded by pledging to mobilize all the workers for whatever action might be necessary.

The April 8 meeting, to be held at Manhattan Center, will act on a unanimous recommendation of the negotiations committee to authorize strike action.

The workers have already been assured the support of the City CIO Council and the powerful Transport Workers Union in the event of a strike. Michael J. Quill, president of both those organizations, also promised to enlist support from the local AFL unions.

As The Worker went to press the negotiators were continuing to meet while the workers prepared their organization to "take more drastic action" in the event they have to negotiate with their



# Administration Trying to Block Real Settlement With China

**OFFICIAL REACTION** last week to Premier Chou En-lai's new peace offer indicated the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration will not negotiate a real settlement with People's China unless forced to do so by popular pressure.

This impression is substantiated by the record of Washington's obstruction of agreement on an armistice in Korea since the truce talks began July 10, 1951.

Reaction to Chou's offer was described by press reports as a "wait-and-see attitude" (N. Y. Herald-Tribune, 3/31), and an attitude of "natural reserve and caution" (N. Y. Times, 3/31).

Beneath these attitudes were as many views of Chou's motivation as there were comments. But the rationalizations could not conceal the real reason for the "caution" in Washington, namely—

... the consensus was: Let's not allow the Communist peace offensive to interfere (1) with the ratification of the European Defense Community Treaty by West Germany and France, (2) with the efforts to rearm Japan and bring that country into the non-Communist coalition or (3) with the passage of an effective United States military budget and "foreign aid program." (James Reston, N. Y. Times, 4/1.)

The Wall Street Journal (3/31) put it even more bluntly:

"... Mao Tse-tung won't get the United States off his neck just by agreeing to a fair truce in Korea. ... The United States is not willing to give up its other pressures against the Red Chinese unless Mao agrees to stop aggression in Indo-China and other trouble spots in the Far East. ... Specifically, the U. S. would keep troops in Korea and Japan. It would keep tightening the economic embargo against the Red Chinese. It would continue arming Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist forces on Formosa and native armies in Indo-China."

And United Press reported from Seoul (March 31) that "it also will be necessary to agree on a new truce line. The two sides agreed on one once but it has gone out of date."

Following Chou's offer, the New York Times' James Reston wrote from Washington that "the State Department spotted a number of glaring ambiguities" in the proposal.

The impression left by such reports was that the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration is seeking new ways to obstruct agreement on an armistice and ceasefire in Korea, while also attempting to utilize the new Chinese-Korean

offer for aggravating disagreement over other Far Eastern questions.

**SUCH A POSITION** was in full accord with the record of official U. S. obstruction of efforts to reach agreement on a Korean armistice since July 10, 1951. The record in brief:

July 12, 1952: U. S. negotiators fail to appear at Kaesong on grounds armed guards stopped convoy bearing U. S. newsmen.

August 5, 1951: Gen. Ridgway breaks off talks on ground Korean-Chinese troops were seen marching near site of negotiations.

August 24, 1951: Ridgway refuses to come to talks on ground of investigating Korean-Chinese charges of truce-zone violations; talks suspended 63 days.

November 28, 1951: long stalemate begins on questions airfields in North Korea, armistice inspection teams and prisoner exchange.

## Why Did They Die?

(Continued from Page 4)  
at greater and some at lesser cost. Nevertheless, there was always a toll in dead and wounded. But, as Lucas wrote from the foot of Old Baldy, "In the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for."

**WE NEVER HEARD** then what Alden reported in Friday's Times. Alden spoke to one of the soldiers who was due to go back up Old Baldy again. The soldier was wondering about his buddy who, he feared, might have been killed. "Probably he's dead," the GI said. "Maybe we will all be dead. I don't even care anymore."

There was much haziness about our objectives among the men in World War II. But there was not

the hopelessness which causes a youth of 20 to abandon the will to live.

Yet, while Lucas ponders a reason for dying that would sound plausible to a soldier in Korea and while Alden tells of the 20-year-old who has given up hope, O'Donnell reports that "our leaders in both parties got the jitters" at the mere thought of peace.

But there was some solace for Eisenhower's top "advisers," reported O'Donnell. Peace will come too late for Lucas' "boys under those brown wool blankets on those bloody stretchers."

Not for Eisenhower's advisers. O'Donnell said that "some of them are chuckling over a recollection that they sold out their big stock holdings before the threat of peace thundered from the Kremlin."

## What to Do on the Rent Steal

(Continued from Page 1)  
ing a decision on legislation.

5. Mobilize the tenants in your house to discuss the new law and get in touch with your nearest tenants' council, plus your Democratic, Republican or American Labor Party club, to explore all avenues for resisting increases under the new law.

a. Send delegations to your local rent office to determine the legal rental of the apartments in your building March 1, 1943.

b. Ask your tenants' council if any increases for "increased services" since that time cannot be deducted from the 15 percent above 1943 levels charged.

c. Ask Dept. of Buildings and Housing send investigators on any violations.

d. Demand reduction of rent for any decreases of services or for landlord's failure to repair violations impairing health or safety.

6. Insist that State Rent Administrator Joseph McGoldrick, 280 Broadway, set up a commit-

tee including labor, tenants and civic organizations' representatives, to be a part of the administrative machinery and to aid in making decisions of policy.

7. Urge the state AFL and state CIO to take up the CIO's position stated during the rent law fight that if across-the-board rent increases were allowed by the legislators they would become a factor in renegotiation of contracts. Also call on the labor bodies to implement their previous stated positions in favor of a special session dealing with rents if the landlords' bill was passed.

**what's on SATURDAY**

**Manhattan**  
CLUB CINEMA presents the German screen classic "Kameradschaft" (1931). A timeless epic based on the actual incident. Two showings Friday, Saturday and Sunday starting at 8:30 p.m. at 430 6th Ave., near 9th St. Adm. \$1 to members. \$1.25 to non-members.

**ALP COMMUNITY CENTER**, 220 W. 80 St. (near Broadway) presents Saturday, April 4, "For Aces and Queens" an evening of chess, checkers, bridge and contests. ... relax with your favorite friends at your favorite game ... refreshments ... \$1.

**BOB CAREY AND YANK LEVINE** are only two of the new faces you will see at tonight's People's Artists "All Pools" Hoof-canny-Dance, Webster Hall, 119 East 11th St. Tickets still available. Don't miss it!

**Brooklyn**  
BROOKLYN Freedom of the Press Association "Greets Steve Nelson," Saturday, April 4, at the Brighton Community Center, 3300 Coney Island Ave. Entertainment by Lou Fine and the All-Star Revue. Dancing follows. Admission 75c in advance and \$1 at the door.

**SUNDAY**  
**Manhattan**  
SUNDAY FORUM presents a film and a forum on Steve Nelson's "The Volunteers" with speakers: Howard Fast, Joseph North, Milton Wolff, Stuart Rosenberg, and others. Admission 75c in advance.

## Flood Waters Hit Maine



Rain-swollen river waters flood a street in Auburn, Maine. The damage in New England was estimated in the millions and 5,000 persons were homeless in the area's worst flood since 1936.

## Peace Knocks at the Door

(Continued from Page 1)

and Korean commanders in Korea addressed a letter to Gen. Mark Clark of the UN forces a proposal for exchanging sick and wounded prisoners of war according to Article 109 of the Geneva Convention of 1949, in line with Gen. Clark's earlier proposal. The letter also suggested that such an exchange could lead to the resumption of truce talks at Panmunjom and the settlement of the question of exchanging all prisoners of war, the only remaining unsettled question of 64 in the armistice negotiations.

On March 30, Premier Chou En-lai, on behalf of both the Chinese and North Korean Governments, broadcast over Peking Radio a new peace offer. Chou stated that the two governments agreed to the repatriation, immediately after the cessation of military activities, of all prisoners of war insisting on repatriation, and proposed that all other prisoners of war should be handed over to a neutral state where they could be interviewed with the aim of settling the question of their repatriation with fairness.

On March 31, Chou addressed this proposal to the United Nations.

**THE SOVIET PROPOSAL** for a new attempt to settle the question of Germany was made in the form of a letter to "The German Rally" in Freies Volk, a Dusseldorf newspaper, by Gen. Vasily Chuikov, the Soviet Commander in Germany. The "Rally" is a West German political group favoring re-unification of Germany and negotiations with the Soviet Union.

In his letter, Gen. Chuikov proposed that the Big Four Powers meet to write a peace treaty for

Germany and reunite the country under a democratic government.

**"DIPLOMATS AND STATESMEN** of other countries, unlike the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration's politicians, viewed the new Soviet and Chinese-Korean peace offers with hope and warmth.

• The Vatican called for their acceptance, Osservatore Romano, official organ, said of the Korean-Chinese offer that "it offers the ray of light that may become a vaster horizon of peace."

• Prime Minister Churchill said he welcomed the new Soviet peace moves, believed that the new Korean armistice plan seemed to offer a hope for ending the Korea war.

• V. K. Krishna Menon, India's representative to the UN, hailed the proposals, moved to interrupt Assembly debate and give the Chinese-Korean plan priority, but agreed to wait until Tuesday to open discussion on them.

These, and the statements of numerous other diplomats, suggested that the rest of the world is taking a different view of the chances for peace than the Eisenhower Administration.

Such were the answers to the question which official U. S. Administration reaction had raised in the mind of the American people.

**MEANWHILE**, even in the U.S., powerful voices representing another view were beginning to speak out, while developments in the fast-moving political phase moved nearer a climax.

House Democratic Leader John W. McCormack declared the new Korean-Chinese peace offer should be explored immediately.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov declared the Soviet government supported the Korean-Chinese offer, and suggested that "the United Nations could do more as regards an armistice in Korea if it were to include the legal representative of China and Korea."

At Panmunjom, liaison teams of the two sides resumed their meetings, while fighting on the battlefronts subsided.

In the United Nations, delegates took an Easter recess and prepared to return to work Monday, when in all probability the Korean-Chinese proposals will come before the Political and Security Committee for full-dress debate. Despite State Department opposition to this procedure, there was belief at weekend that the question could not be deferred.

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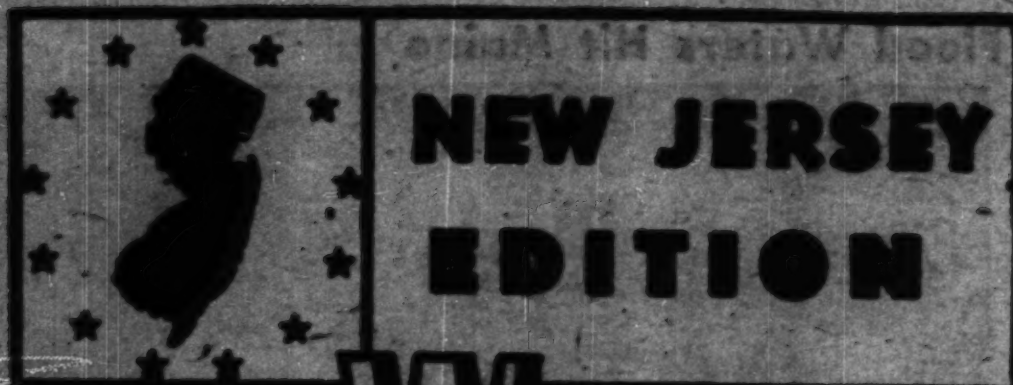
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**NEW JERSEY  
EDITION**

# The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1953

## 7,000 Strike at Bell Telephone

OVER 7,000 N.J. Bell Telephone Co. workers are out on strike since last weekend, after weeks of fruitless negotiations with one of the nation's biggest monopolies. The workers immediately set up picket lines in Newark, Trenton, Jersey City and other key areas throughout the state. For the most part CIO operators were observing the picket lines of the independent Telephone Workers Union, and were refusing to cross them to go to work.

The union, representing plant, engineering and accounting employees, is asking for wage increases of \$7 to \$8 a week, a single wage zone for the state, shortening of the 6½ years it takes to reach top pay, and pension plan improvements.

THE ARROGANT attitude of the big monopoly has led observers to forecast the possibility of a long strike. Since contracts with the Commercial Telephone Workers Union, covering 1,800 workers, expire April 6, and another contract with the CIO operators, representing nearly 11,000 workers, expires a week later, the giant Bell system evidently plans to down any increase to a minimum.

The State AFL Executive Board voted to give full financial support to the striking workers, and asked all unionists to respect the picket lines. This should only be the first such action in a widespread campaign by the labor movement to help the Bell workers win their just demands.

### Communist Party Calls for Drive To Hit The Worker Sub Goals

THE STATE BOARD of the New Jersey Communist Party has called on all its members to pitch in now in a concerted drive to fulfill Jersey's goal of 1,200 subs by April 15.

"The fight to expand the circulation of The Jersey Worker is an important part of the fight for peace," said the Party statement. "But so far only a comparatively small portion of the Party membership has been involved in the sub drive. We urge all organizations

of the Party to help finish the drive by involving every member to secure at least one sub. So far, a heroic job has been done. A minimum effort on the part of every Communist will guarantee fulfillment of our goals."

The standings in the campaign are: Farm 200-133 percent, Essex 233-67 percent, Hudson 104-83 percent, Union 57-75 percent, Passaic 80-76 percent, Middlesex 19-56 percent, Camden 84-76 percent, Mercer 70-56 percent, totalling 848 subs.

### Clergymen Ask Rosenberg Clemency

TWENTY-TWO clergymen in the south Jersey area, representing many church affiliations, have appealed to President Eisenhower for clemency for Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and asked the President to reconsider his past decision.

Their letter points out that the alleged crime was committed at a time when the Soviet Union and the United States were allies, and that none of the others involved were given more than prison sentences.

"... we therefore believe that the sentence given this couple was

a savage and unjustified one. We beg you to reconsider your decision from motives of justice and mercy, and for the sake of America's good name throughout the world," the clergymen said.

THE LETTER was signed by the following ministers: Percival C. Bailey, Donald L. Collins, J. H. Devose, Glenn W. Eagle, Calvin J. Felton, Kenneth R. Forbes, Ralph V. Graham, Albert E. Hartman, Harry S. Henck, William Hill, William McGee, Jr., Walter C. Huntsinger, Richard R. King, J. Purnell, H. August Kuehl, M. L. McKenney, J. D. Stanley, H. H. Watts, Isam E. Wilson, District Elder George M. Johnson and Elder Fred Barnes.

The Peacemakers, a nation pacifist group, also appealed to Eisenhower to commute the death sentences of the condemned couple. An announcement by William Sutherland of Glen Ridge, secretary of the organization, said that execution of the Rosenbergs would be "an act of fear and frustration on the part of the U. S."

### A Mother's Love

PHILADELPHIA. — A frantic young mother, Mrs. Dorothy T. Baer, 26, of Coral St., near Lehigh, unable to meet her rent payments, has admitted starting three blazes in her apartment in order to try to keep the constable from throwing her family out in the street. She was held without bail on a charge on arson.

## Cop Testifies Keenan Ordered Police Brutality

NEWARK. A NEWARK COP testified in County Judge Francis' court that Public Safety Director Keenan ordered them to "take off the kid gloves" and go to work on arrested suspects. Police Sergeant Charles O'Connor said under oath: "In plain English we took night sticks

and went to work on them. When we catch anyone red-handed that was Director Keenan's orders. He said to take the gloves off if you catch them red handed. . . . He said for us to use the utmost discretion but in cases where they are caught robbing, to take the gloves off."

This sensational confirmation of Newark police brutality, which has caused widespread protest, was admitted by O'Connor, testifying for the state in a robbery and assault case. O'Connor told how he had beaten two suspects so badly they had to be hospitalized before they could be booked. O'Connor's excuse was he was carrying out Keenan's publicly announced orders. "It was in all the papers," said Keenan's slap-happy cop, in answering a question of Judge Francis.

"I don't know how much the damage was—all I know they all went to the hospital and were treated and then booked" testified O'Connor in showing how well he had carried out Keenan's instructions.

KEENAN'S fascist-like orders will probably cost the city a damage suit, since the jury acquitted both defendants.

The New Jersey CIO immediately called for a Congressional investigation of Keenan's Police Department. Arthur Chapin, in a letter to Representative Keating (R-NY), chairman of a House judiciary subcommittee, cited O'Connor's admissions in court that he and another cop beat the two men.

"Two years ago Keenan directed Newark police to 'get rough' with prisoners caught in the act of committing crimes. The police department has not hesitated to carry out his orders and to beat prisoners before they were charged with crimes—in direct violation of the civil liberties and rights of all Americans," said Chapin.

"Since the Department of Justice has not acted to punish a single violation of civil rights in Newark, we believe that a full scale investigation of Newark Police Department by your committee is warranted," concluded Chapin's letter to the Congressman.

IN A LEAFLET issued to the people of Newark, the New Jersey Civil Rights Congress charged that "Keenan's police have been running hog wild." The leaflet said:

"No action taken against police for brutal shooting of William Johnson. No action taken against police for invasion of Abyssinian Baptist Church during Sunday services. No action against the police for vicious attack on Prudential strikers picket line."

The CRC leaflet urged all Newark residents to demand Gov. Driscoll order an investigation of the Newark police, that City Commission remove Keenan pending full investigation of police practices, and that all candidates for public office be called on to speak out against Keenan's police brutality.

ESSEX COUNTY Americans for Democratic Action demanded that county prosecutor Caulkin investigate the situation. The ADA statement cited the cop's testimony and called such actions "inconsistent with basic concepts of justice and democracy."

The Communist Party of Essex County urged that labor and civic and fraternal organizations, and all decent citizens make Keenan a target for defeat in the May 12 city commission elections.

### New Jersey SHOP TALK

#### RUNAWAY SHOP

Another Jersey firm is moving out for greener pastures of low taxes and low wages. The Waverly Piece Dye Works of Elizabeth will move to West Warwick, R. I., and a 10-year tax exemption. The plant will move in June after 19 years of exploiting Union County workers.

#### TRUCKERS SIGN

More than 100 trucking companies came round to seeing it the union way thus ending the threat of strikes by Local 478, Teamsters Union. The trucking outfits complied with contract provisions covering welfare benefits after the AFL union threatened to strike.

#### FOR FIREMEN'S UNION

Bills to allow firemen the right to organize and bargain collectively have been introduced into the State Legislature by Senator Hand of Union. The bills provide machinery for balloting when petitions are filed representing 30 percent of the employees. Arbitration is provided in case of issues not resolved through collective bargaining.

#### EXTEND CONTRACT

Essex AFL Carpenters have extended their present contracts 16 months without any charges. Present rate for carpenters is \$3.40 an hour with a 7-hour day and 35-hour week.

#### USE RED SCARE

Another chiseling employer has trotted out the red scare in an attempt to break a union and smash workers' wages and conditions. The Ralph Coxhead Corp. of Newark, in a letter to its 150 employees, charged that Local 437, UE is "Communist dominated."

The company said it would not bargain with UE. Frank Murphy, local president, called the company excuse "a shop-worn coverup that will fool nobody." He said that the company was "perfectly willing to bargain only two weeks ago, provided the union would agree to nine company demands, including destruction of plant-wide seniority."

#### CANDIDATES BACKED

Essex Trades Council has endorsed the candidacy of Leo Carlin, Teamsters official, who is running for reelection to city commission. The Council also en-

#### Faculty Protests

#### Witchhunt Firing

#### At Ohio State U.

COLUMBUS, O., Ohio State University faculty members joined students today in supporting Dr. Byron T. Darling, university physics professor suspended for refusing to answer a House committee's witchhunt questions.

A letter, signed by 10 colleagues of Dr. Darling, was sent to university president Howard L. Bevin. "Loss of this excellent scientist would be a serious blow to our department and the university," the letter said.

A similar letter was sent to Bevin last week by 50 students. Bevin has called a hearing for April 2 to question Dr. Darling.

#### NEWARK

Public Safety Director Keenan ordered them to "take off the kid gloves" and go to work on arrested suspects. Police Sergeant Charles O'Connor said under oath: "In plain English we took night sticks

dorsed the five candidates of the Citizens Committee for Charter revision study.

## AROUND THE STATE

#### WANTS MASS MURDER

Reactionary airlines president, Eddie Rickenbacker, says we should drop the atom bomb in Korea. Use of the A-bomb is justified, says Rickenbacker, because "we are fighting animals who are destroying the cream of our youth."

This is the same Rickenbacker who fought against closing of the Newark Airport death trap. The many deaths and injuries caused by the three Elizabeth crashes didn't worry the airlines bigshot as much as loss of profits for Mr. Rickenbacker's Eastern Airlines. He regards the people in Elizabeth and Newark the same as he regards the Koreans—as "animals."

#### ASKS FEPC

The Essex County Joint Council for Civil Rights has recommended to the Mayor's Commission that a program of fair employment practices conferences be started. The council proposes that specific employer groups such as banks, breweries, insurance companies, department stores, etc., be invited to conferences to discuss the state FEPC law and the city's fair practices ordinance.

#### VOTE ON RUTGERS

The Newark Board of Education, by a 5-1 vote, endorsed a resolution commending Rutgers for firing two professors who exercised their Constitutional rights. Peter Yablonsky and Mrs. Burch abstained and Mrs. Nusbaum voted against the resolution.

Mrs. Nusbaum said: "Basically, I object to this board taking such action. . . . It is a veiled threat to our teachers that if a Velde, a McCarthy or a Jenner came into this city they must answer all questions or be dismissed." Yablonsky called it a "loaded resolution," and said he questioned the motive behind it.

#### RAPS WALTER LAW

Revision of the McCarran-Walter Act was demanded in a resolution introduced into the state Senate by Sens. Clapp and McCay. The resolution says: "The law must be rewritten from beginning to end so that reasonable requirements on the character and numbers of people who come to share our land and our freedom can be humanely set forth."

#### RENT CONTROLS

Republicans in the legislature have dropped Driscoll's bill to dump rent control on to municipal officials when federal controls end. The new approach is to place administration and enforcement in the state government, but allow municipal governing bodies to decide whether the controls should apply to them. Labor and tenant groups have hailed this change as a victory for the people.

### Coming Events

The New Jersey Freedom of the Press Association announces the following meetings and forums will be held under its auspices at the Jewish Cultural Center, 516 Clinton Ave., Newark:

Sunday, April 12: Stalin-Roosevelt Memorial Meeting.  
Sunday, April 19: "Malenkov's Report to the 19th Congress of the CPSU."

Sunday, May 10: Stalin's "Economic Problems of Socialism."

Sunday, May 17: "Stalin on the National Question."

The starting time for all the affairs will be 8:30 p.m. Nationally known speakers from the Daily Worker and the Jefferson School will speak.

All readers of the paper are invited to attend and bring their friends.



# Peace Knocks at Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN PITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profiters, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganing prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1-Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2-The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3-Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4-The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5-Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6-Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese  
(Continued on Page 13)

## The Worker

National  
Edition

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XVIII, No. 14  
16 Pages

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

CHOU EN-LAI

### Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will lie tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 2-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bring about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

### 'Why Did These Kids Have to Die?'

By BERNARD BURTON

THE PROSPECT OF PEACE in Korea brought the jitters to Washington and new hope to young men living under the shadow of death in Korea. "Believe this reporter," wrote the New York Daily News' Washington columnist, John O'Donnell, "our leaders in both parties got the jitters today figuring out what would happen to our economy if voters and our next Congress called a halt on war-economy spending."

Peace was viewed as a "threat" in Washington. Said O'Donnell: "Peace in the shooting war in Korea threatens to break out at any moment."

In Korea, however, men welcomed this "threat." It made sense and brought new hope to battle-shocked GIs who had only recently been drawn back from the fruitless attacks on Old Baldy, a poor excuse for a hill a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. A Washington columnist, such as O'Donnell, can sit around coldly weighing the pros and cons of peace in Korea.

IT IS a little more difficult for a combat correspondent in Korea even though his politics may not differ from O'Donnell's. War and peace often get tangled up with human emotions. Dead GIs as well as live ones often get into the story from Korea where peace is viewed as a blessing, not a "threat."

In the New York World-Telegram of March 27 it was the dead



American soldiers in Korea.

GIs who got into Jim C. Lucas' story—the dead of Old Baldy. "You look at them," wrote Lucas, "and you ask yourself, 'why did these kids have to die?' And you are ashamed because you don't know the answer."

Lucas keeps probing for the answer in his dispatch, the sort of answer he could give if one of those kids asked him for an answer. He says, "I guess I know, deep inside," the reason—the kind of "reason" which his publisher and the Daily News' publisher have been spouting for three death-filled spring seasons in Korea. But Lucas doesn't feel he can give that kind of reason to the kids in Korea.

"If those boys under those brown wool blankets," he writes, "on those bloody stretchers sat up and asked me why they died on Old Baldy, I'd have to answer: 'I don't know, Mac. I just don't know.'"

THE SCRPPS-HOWARD, writer

gets a glimpse of the truth but doesn't probe it very far. "We've lost thousands of men in the fight against tyranny during the last 10 years. But in the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for. . . . Sure, it was tough losing them but there was a reason for it. And—since there was a reason—men achieved dignity in death."

"When a man is asked to die, he deserves to know why. It should be for more than for Baldy, or for prestige, or to buy a stalemate."

THE SOLDIERS—the dead and the quick—got into the Times also on March 27, in a dispatch from the front, from Robert W. Alden: "The fight for Old Baldy is," wrote Alden, "as a professional soldier might say, 'a rough go.' These men who are fighting for us are not professional soldiers. They are for the most part farm boys, students and clerks. They want to live very

(Continued on Page 13)

### HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

## 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread—indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In this Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION

# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers' convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to meet Wall Street's new chal-



WALTER REUTHER

lenge," consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1956 election. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment," with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the precinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution

is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

A speech by Reuther in which he set forth the basic conditions of the CIO for the scheduled merger negotiations, was seized upon by Meany who said that "the odds are against" unity and attacked the CIO head for discussing the issues in public prior to the talks.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A tally showed 812 hands for a rollcall. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International CEB's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

"I don't like the way these cases are reported," said William Bradley of Local 701, Indianapolis. "Some of these reports sound like management talking. I am president of my local and when a man says he gave notice I'll back him to the hilt."

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal visit from the President.

## POINT of ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Max

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

### THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

#### Meany's Dim View on Unity Electric Plant Votes AFL

GEORGE Meany, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jimcrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,591 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric, ousting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzler to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the I.L.A. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket

lines. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 50,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopener. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringes. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they give the decision at a membership meeting April 8. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

THE CIO's executive board meeting on April 6 is expected to give an OK to the appointment of John Riffe of the steel union as executive vice-president of the organization, the vacancy left by Allan S. Haywood. . . . The first issue of Steel Labor since David J. McDonald was inaugurated president shows, covering its entire front cover, a two-color photo of an artist member of the union putting the finishing touches to a photo-of David J. McDonald.

## Use Ammo Scare for New Anti-Labor Laws

By ELIHU S. HICKS

THE RECENT Washington furor about an alleged shortage of ammunition in Korea was exposed last week as a cover for new legislation to be introduced in Congress to further restrict labor's right to strike.

A headline in the Friday, March 27 issue of the New York Journal-American provided the tipoff. The headline read: "37 Percent Cut in Ammunition Blamed on Steel Strike." Accusing Truman of maintaining a "coddle labor" policy during his administration, Congressmen Smith (R-Kan.), Van Zandt (R-Pa.), and Hoffman (R-Mich.) claimed that last year's steel strike, the Scovill Brass strike led by the CIO-UAW and the International Harvester strike led by UE caused serious cuts in ammunition deliveries.

General Van Fleet, who made the claims of "shortages" before the House Armed Services Committee, said that General Mark Clark and former Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett had attributed the "situation" to the strikes.

It was also the Truman Administration that "put the demands" of labor leaders ahead of defense

needs during World War II and now in Korea," Rep. Van Zandt called for a Congressional investigation and indicated that he would introduce more legislation to cripple labor.

Politically conscious labor leaders all throughout the country are preparing for the next offensives by Big Business—begun already in the Taft-Hartley hearings—to do away with the right to strike altogether.

The Van Fleet charges also pointed up the fact that the Korean war is and has always been directly in contradiction with the interests of labor.

#### HIT RACKETEERING

VANCOUVER, B. C. (FP). — After disclosure of racketeering involving top officers of the International Longshoremen's Assn. (ILA) in New York, the Vancouver local voted to switch to the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

#### COMPERS SCHOOL

SAN DIEGO, Cal. (FP). — The newest high school in this city will be named for Samuel Compers, first AFL president.

## Negro Cop Suspended For Arresting White

JUSTICE is far from being blind—color blind, that is—when it comes to dealing with acts of policemen.

Consider the fate of Private Norman F. Allison, a 37-year-old Negro policeman in Washington, D.C., who last week arrested a white woman motorist for driving illegally and dangerously on Bennington Road. A companion and Pvt. Allison were in plain clothes and in a police cruise car. After stopping the weaving driver, and identifying themselves as officers, the offending driver reportedly loosed a flow of abusive language. She protested that she didn't want "a n—r to put his hands" on her, refused to show her license or car registration.

The two Negro officers, sensing the explosive situation in the nation's capital, called in white officers to complete the arrest.

Pvt. Allison's fellow officer, Pvt. Milton Taylor, also a Negro, went along to the 9th Precinct to book the traffic violator on charges of weaving traffic, and failing to identify herself and her automobile. When Pvt. Allison called to pick up Taylor, their superior officer, Capt. Lewis Peters, expressed angry disapproval of the Negro policemen's arrest of a white woman. Allison vocally objected to Capt. Lewis' biased attitude and was immediately suspended pending action by Police Chief Robert V. Murray.

IN BALTIMORE, Mrs. Bernice Wilkins, a 22-year-old Negro housewife, was asked by a white repairman for permission to

pass through her apartment to get onto an adjoining roof. She refused. The repairman returned a little later with two white policemen, Sgt. John Dunn and Officer Bernard Zilinski. Mrs. Wilkins stood her ground, asserting her right not to allow her home to be used as a public-throughfare. The two cops set upon Mrs. Wilkins, clad only in a robe and a housecoat, tore her clothes from her and dragged her to the police station, leaving three children, aged from three months to five years, unattended with a gas stove burning.

Several hours later Mrs. Wilkins was acquitted of the "disorderly conduct" charge and returned to her children.

After mass indignation and protests by the Negro community, Commissioner Beverly Ober (who had ruled the Wilkins arrest "justified"), said the police had erred in charging the housewife with being disorderly. The charge should have been, he said, "assaulting an officer."

Now Mrs. Wilkins and her attorneys are seeking federal redress under federal civil rights laws.

#### SUE FOR BACK PAY

LOS ANGELES (FP). — Local 770, Retail Clerks International Association, AFL filed 31 suits in superior court, demanding \$487,000 in back pay from supermarket operators on grounds that they reneged on wage agreements reached in January, 1952.



# 37,566 Killed or Wounded in Mines

By WALTER LOWENFELS

EVERYTHING DECLINED in the coal industry last year, except the blood on the operators' profits.

Thirty-seven thousand five hundred and sixty-six are listed as wounded or killed in the mines during 1955.

This ghastly figure is actually a slight decrease over the previous year.

However, that decrease, of 2.3 percent, is only apparent. It was due to the decrease of a hundred million hours in the time the men spent underground.

The rate of injury for the 37,020 wounded, and 546 killed, took a sensational upward leap of 13 percent.

Out of each million tons of coal mined, 74.39 men were killed or wounded last year, compared to 66.67 the year before.

The increased profits to the operators from this terrible annual toll is felt by the miner, not in terms of millions of dollars, as they appear in the company books, but in the increased productivity that was squeezed out of each miner's life and death.

Here, the Bureau of Mines preliminary survey, issued

March 25, from which our figures are taken, reveals each miner produced an average of 7,302 tons in 1955 compared to 6,982 tons per man day in 1951.

These figures mean that operators did not lose because total coal production declined (from 574,335,006 tons to 504,874,000 tons); or because the total number of miners at work dropped (by 32,000 from 453,600 to 421,500); or because the average number of days each miner worked decreased (from 210.3 days to 196.6).

On the contrary, the figures mean that while fewer men worked less time, and the nation's coal production went down by 72 million tons, the operators got more coal out of each hour each miner worked, and squeezed more dollars out of each casualty they suffered.

It is any wonder that the financiers who dominate the coal industry such as George Humphrey, Secretary of the Treasury, himself a leading coal operator, are anxious to "liberate" countries in the socialist world that no longer produce such "profit" statistics?

## Prices 'Drop,' Profits Hit All-Time High

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index was down .5 percent in Detroit from January to February, led by a decrease of 1.9 percent for food items, according to a report from BLS.

With auto wages still tied by recent UAW convention decision to BLS price indexes the next so-called "adjustment" of the escalator wages can mean a wage cut of one cent per hour in auto wages.

GM made \$588,721,179 in 1955; Chrysler \$78,696,599 in 1955; and Ford is handing out the millions right and left from the Ford Foundation to everyone but Ford workers. The workers are in no mood for penny wage cuts or penny wage increases.

The delegates in Atlantic City sounded off that unless the corporations began producing something else besides hard luck stories on these demands then any future long term contracts would be out.

## Face Runaway Deal In Kaiser Merger

TOLEDO. — Negotiations for merger between the Willys-Overland Co. and Kaiser-Fraiser were recently held in New York City, attended by representatives of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to which Kaiser is heavily in debt. Representatives of California banking interests are reported interested in the deal.

Ward Canaday, chairman of Willys-Overland, was upset when word of the negotiations leaked out and caused a sensation in Toledo, especially it was reported that the company's facilities might be moved from Toledo to Willow Run.

## Rip Stall on State FEPC Bill

CHICAGO. — Campaigners for an FEPC in Illinois directed their fire against the Stratton administration this week for blocking fair employment legislation.

A two-day conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, held at St. Anselm's Church, decided to begin circulating petitions containing the proposed state FEPC law.

"Even some legislators have been telling us the Negro people are not interested in FEPC," declared attorney W. Robert Ming Jr., "We're going to prove otherwise."

THE DELEGATES at the conference, including many from downstate towns, reported on the toll of discrimination. One woman from Elgin, Illinois, declared that employers there are "anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, anti-Negro — well, just anti-human being."

She told of the Jimcrow ban at the giant Elgin Watch Co. and demanded, "What are we going to do about it?"

Paul Thurlow, state leader of the NAACP, told how discrimination today pervades every phase of life in many communities, affecting children as well as adults.

He made the startling revelation

that the only form of recreation available to Negro children in Centralia, Ill. is swimming in flooded abandoned coal mines.

"WE WANT an FEPC with enforcement provisions," he said, "One learns by doing and we are going to make the employers do so they will learn."

The conference of 150 delegates from seven Midwest states discussed a comprehensive legislative program on housing, civil rights, FEPC and education.

Ellsworth Smith, secretary of the Chicago CIO Industrial Union Council, lashed the failure of the government to enforce compliance with its ban on discrimination in plants which have government contracts. He stated that the CIO here has asked all locals to protest these violations of a federal executive order in their plants.

A RALLY on FEPC was held here last Monday night, called by the state NAACP branches and the Illinois Committee for Equal Job Opportunities.

Said Thurlow: "We have no assurances by Governor Stratton that he and his administration will sponsor an FEPC bill and we must make it clear to the governor that such a bill is desired."

## Groups Denounce 'Gestapo Bills'

CHICAGO. — The threat that the Broyles Bills will be jammed through the Senate next week was answered by protests from numerous groups against the "Gestapo Bills."

A wire signed by 45 prominent Illinois citizens said that the measure would create "a gestapo which would set neighbor against neighbor." The wire was sent to the state senators.

The bills are currently in the Senate, which was slated to con-

sider them next week. Those opposing the bills have been contacting state senators this week urging that they vote the thought control measures down.

A preliminary meeting of trade unionists was held at UE Hall last week which is expected to plan a conference later this month on battling the Broyles Bills.

One of the Broyles Bills, Senate Bill 102, was blasted by the Chicago Bar Association.

The attorneys' group said that the bill is "unconstitutional in its loyalty oath provision, vague and indefinite in its enforcement provisions, and lacking a uniform method of determining who may be a subversive person."

MEANWHILE, in Springfield, the State Senate Appropriations Committee set aside \$65,000 for use under S.B. 101, in case it is passed. This Broyles Bill sets up a so-called investigation committee to probe progressive groups, schools, churches.

Broyles declared that he favored the investigation of clergymen who "get off base."

## CIO BRANDS OIL GRAB 'DISGRACEFUL' PROPOSAL

WASHINGTON (FP)

AS CONGRESSIONAL debate got underway on the multi-billion dollar offshore oil grab, CIO legislative Director Nathan E. Cowan branded the move an "iniquitous and disgraceful proposal."

In a letter to all congressmen, Cowan complained that the Eisenhower administration plan to give Texas, California and Louisiana to the tidelands oil was bad enough. The measure now up in the House is far worse, he said.

The original bill by Sen. S. L. Holland (D-Fla.) would give California title to the lands up to 3½ miles offshore. For Louisiana and Texas the limit would be 10½ miles. This bill was backed by the oil lobby because it was thought that was as much as it could get.

But the House judiciary com-

mittee voted 14 to 7 to give states taxing rights over all oil removed from the entire offshore continental shelf. This raises the grab from the multi-billion dollar class to a deal involving unknown hundreds of billions. It would complicate international relations as well.

"The present bill," Cowan said, "goes far beyond anything proposed in the election campaign. This proposition is just the first step in the impending raid on all natural resources now protected by the federal government in the interest of the nation as a whole. You can be sure that it will be followed by proposals to transfer federally owned timberlands, grazing lands, wild-life preserves and perhaps even the national parks to the states for cession to private exploiters."

## Industrialists' Lobby Kills Shop Safety Bill

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Illinois' big business lobby has blocked a measure that might have decreased the number of casualties in industrial plants in this state, the Illinois State Federation of Labor charged this week.

The lobbyists killed a bill which would have called on business firms employing more than 25 people to institute a safety program.

The bill was defeated in the state Senate Committee on Industrial Affairs. A majority of the committee voted the bill out "do not pass."

THE state AFL specifically pointed responsibility for defeat of the bill at the lobbies of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Manufacturers Association.

"It was the mildest kind of proposal designed to prevent accidents and save lives," said Reuben Soderstrom, president of the state AFL.

But the two big business groups opposed the measure bitterly and operated behind the scenes to block the bill, conscious that any kind of safety program interferes with speedup and profits.

THE labor-sponsored measure was an attempt to cut the appalling toll of 50,000 compensable injuries in Illinois plants each year, including hundreds of fatalities.

Nine Republicans and one Democrat made up the committee majority which killed the bill. They acted in the face of pleas by Soderstrom and CIO legislative representative John Alesia that the mea-

sure be reported out favorably. Soderstrom pointed out that Gov. Stratton had asked for industrial safety measures in his inaugural address. However, the members of the Governor's own party on the committee were instrumental in stopping the bill.

Among those who killed the bill were Sen. Arthur Larson, who is also a bitter opponent of public housing, and Sen. John P. Meyer, one of the chief sponsors of the witchhunting Broyles Bills.

Soderstrom declared that the big business lobbyists had expressed "intense feelings" in opposition to the safety bill.

He warned that the safety campaign must not be delayed "until another mine catastrophe or oil refinery explosion rocks this state."

## SHORTAGE OF CUSTOMERS HITS CHRYSLER

ATLANTIC CITY. — News that Chrysler made some small price cuts on some of its overpriced 1953 models will be used to raise new road blocks against granting Chrysler workers wage increases, was the feeling of delegates at the UAW convention.

The price cuts came after months of speedup of Chrysler workers on 1953 models. Only two weeks ago at the Dodge Hamtramck plant workers stopped work to fight speedup.

At Chrysler's Warren-Desoto

plant the union has been battling speedup for months on all assembly jobs. For the past several weeks Chrysler Plymouth has been conducting an advertising campaign to sell used cars in order to help dealers make a dent in the huge pile of used cars obtained when big trade ins were given in order to sell 1952 models.

When the union placed its modest economic improvements before Ford and Chrysler, the reply was "We couldn't afford it." Yet Chrysler made \$78,696,599 profits after

taxes in 1955.

AT A recent UAW convention the Reuther machine red baited, intimidated, fought all proponents of the 30-hour week with 40 hours pay. But 30-40 may soon be a point on the agenda for the Chrysler workers if new cars are not bought. This is rapidly becoming the base and is the main reason for the price cuts.

Therefore watch for Chrysler car prices dropping. The union demands



## GOLDWATER-RHODES BILLS WOULD GIVE McCARRAN BOARD VETO ON UNIONS

# Labor Fights Bill to Out Do Taft-Hartley

By HARRY RAYMOND

WASHINGTON.

WHILE the battle against the Taft-Hartley Act continued last week in both the Senate and House Labor Committees, a new menacing attack on the trade unions was advanced in Congress

## Detroit Leads The U. S. in Bankruptcies

DETROIT.—As delegates to the recent UAW convention in Atlantic City arrived back home they saw headlines which said:

"Detroit Leads U. S. in Bankruptcies; Free Press Survey Finds Economic Picture Darker."

The story quoted a Board of Commerce Research Director John Stewart flatly predicting a cut back in auto production.

"This is an automotive town. I predict that the automobile companies will have to cut back production in the last half of this year. I don't see how they can possibly continue to produce at their current level and sell all the cars they make," he said.

The credit situation was discussed by Edward Phelan, secretary manager of the Detroit Association of Credit Men. He said the number of credit accounts turned over to credit firms for collection is up 10 percent over 1952.

"The number of unpaid bills, obligating both consumers and retailers, is the highest it has been since the end of World War II," he said.

He explained that the increase of economic failures on an individual basis is responsible for the general tightening up of the credit.

"The time allowed to pay off credit contracts is getting shorter," he said, "This is a condition that in a relatively free economy always exists just prior to a recession."

Walter McKenzie, senior bankruptcy referee in the Federal Building, expects 1,200 bankruptcy petitions will be filed this year.

The number of bankruptcies (both individuals and business) is almost six times greater than in 1946 and is nearly half of those filed in 1934.

McKenzie, whose region covers 39 counties in Michigan, said the Detroit area now leads the nation in the number of bankruptcies.

Herein lies one of the answers as to why Chrysler Corporation recently cut prices on its cars, why Kaiser-Frazer has 10,000 unsold new cars stacked around the plant, and why Plymouth is staging a campaign to sell used cars.

by Sen. Barry Goldwater and Rep. John Rhodes, Arizona Republicans.

Sen. Goldwater made his bid to outdo Taft-Hartley by introduction of a bill (S. 1254) "to establish effective means to determine Communist domination of unions and to eliminate Communists from positions of influence and control of labor unions." Rep. Rhodes offered a companion bill (H.R. 3993) in the House.

The proposed Goldwater legislation is so oppressive that it aroused immediate protests from the national AFL leadership.

NO BILL in recent years has so closely resembled the thought control so characteristic of totalitarian regimes," said Glen Slaughter, re-

search director of the AFL Labor's League for Political Education.

The bill states that it is the purpose of Communists to "encourage and foment strikes, slowdowns, industrial strife and unrest." And it is the bill's declared purpose to outlaw such activities.

It broadens provisions of the McCarran Act to apply to trade unions where one or more of its officers or shop stewards can be shown to have promoted or publicized "the economic international and governmental doctrines, policies or aims of the world Communist movement."

If any officers of a union or the union itself would be shown at a Subversive Activities Control Board hearing to have advocated abolition of discrimination be-

cause of race, creed or color, public housing, government ownership of basic industries or other planks in the Communist program, the union, under provisions of the Goldwater bill, would be declared a "Communist action" or "Communist front" organization.

THE BILL proves that when such a finding is made, the board would be empowered to prevent the union from functioning as a labor organization.

Sen. Goldwater, according to Slaughter, proclaimed himself during last November's elections a "liberal in the best western tradition." But, said Slaughter, he "wasted no time in getting himself stamped as the most prolific fountain of anti-labor legislation in years."

The first thing Goldwater did when he took his seat in the Senate was to introduce an eight-line amendment to circumvent the Taft-Hartley Act by permitting state legislatures to outlaw completely the right to strike and picket for any cause whatsoever.

"But this was only the beginning," declared the LLPE research director. "Last week Sen. Gold-

water introduced a massive 27-page bill designed to curb Communist unions. In practice it would give a fishing license to the McCarran Act Control Board to prod into the affairs of unions everywhere and decide which unions and employees it wished to purge.

It could order out of business any union that ever advocated anything the Communist Party advocated, including income taxes and public schools.

SLAUGHTER cited Goldwater's recent attacks against standby price controls and public power development as a measure of the Senator's opposition to public welfare.

Goldwater's strikebreaking amendment to the Taft-Hartley Act said:

"Nothing in this act shall be construed to nullify the power of any state or territory to regulate or qualify the right of employees to strike or picket.

Great danger to the democratic process today lies in the fact that labor has not yet mobilized its full force against the Taft-Hartley and Goldwater - Rhodes offensives against the trade unions.

## McCARRAN-WALTER FOE FRAMED FOR ACTIVITIES

DETROIT.—Saul Grossman, executive secretary of the Michigan Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, was indicted March 27 by a Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D. C., on three counts of contempt of Congress arising out of his appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee last year.

The following statement was issued by Mr. Grossman:

"The indictment is part of a plot to hamstring the efforts of the American people to repeal the vicious Walter-McCarran Act, in which the Michigan Committee for Protection of Foreign Born is taking an active role.

"It follows the recent statement made by Rep. Francis Walter on the floor of Congress that only 'professional Jews' were opposing the 'Walter-McCarran Act,' of which he is co-author. Reactionary Congressmen like Walter, and the forces behind them, are well aware of the tremendous movement against the Act which is daily gathering momentum. They know that major Catholic, Protestant and Jewish organizations, labor, veteran and civic groups have spoken out in protest and are organizing to defeat the Act. In their attempt to head off this growing movement, they are resorting to vilification of opponents of the Act, open anti-Semitism, and citations for contempt of Congress. They will

not succeed in these crude attempts. Instead, I am confident that the American people will win the fight for repeal of the Walter-McCarran Act and its replacement with an immigration and nationality law in keeping with our democratic traditions.

"The demand for books and records made by the Un-Americans from me was an attempt to add the names of thousands of people to their blacklist. I refused to become a stoolpigeon and informer. I refused to be a party to the destruction of the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution which forbids unreasonable search and seizure."

Also cited for "contempt" was Arthur McPhaul, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, who also refused to turn over CRC records to the Un-Americans. He has not yet been indicted.

DETROIT.—Mrs. Rebecca Maisenberg, a woman leader of the peoples movement, has been threatened with loss of her citizenship by action of the government.

Mrs. Maisenberg, long active in progressive circles and well known for her sterling work back in the early 30s on behalf of the unemployed, fight for Negro rights and helping to unionize the auto plants, knew nothing of the government's pending act until the news began blaring over the radio and appearing in newspapers.

## A MOTHER'S HORROR

PHILADELPHIA.—The horror felt by many parents at the atom blast demonstration televised from Nevada recently is expressed in a letter signed "A Mother" in the Philadelphia Inquirer. The letter says, in part:

"As we watched the explosion of the latest atomic bomb, my children asked me whether the men who dropped it weren't afraid of blowing up the whole world . . . the answer I had to give them sounded hollow even to me. 'If our cities are blasted and

laid waste and most of the people die, will the survivors learn to live in peace with each other, or will they start down the same old path of hatred and fear?'"

### Is This News?

BOSSSES are less likely to break down than workers, doctors were told at a recent St. Louis medical meet. Is this news? a reader asks The Pennsylvania Worker.



A thousand French police swooped down on Paris headquarters of General Confederation of Labor (CGT) in vain search for Secretary Benoit Frachon. They arrested two other union officials and also jailed Andre Stil, editor of the Communist newspaper L'Humanite. CGT leaders charged the raid was intended to impress the U. S. government, from which French Premier Rene Mayer is seeking more financial support.

# AFL-CIO Back Negro Candidate April 6

DETROIT.—The American Federation of Labor and the CIO in Wayne County have endorsed two Negro candidates, one for Records Court Judge and the other for Detroit Board of Education.

The candidates are: Charles Wesley Jones, well known Negro attorney who several years ago was appointed by Gov. Williams to the post of Records Court Judge but was defeated for election when Negro hating cops from the Hunt St. station delivered ballot boxes of several Negro wards

hours after the polls opened. Judge Jones finished well up in the recent primaries. With much needed help in communities he can be elected.

The candidacy of Charles R. A. Smith, another Negro attorney, for Common Pleas Judge was unfortunately bypassed by both the AFL and CIO, despite attorney Smith's winning nomination in the primary.

Attorney Smith is expected to make a strong bid to break down the lily-white character of the

Common Pleas Courts.

Dr. Remus Robinson is the first Negro candidate to run for Detroit Board of Education incumbents Mrs. Jane Lovejoy and Mrs. Laura Osborn, both white, are seeking reelection.

Dr. Robinson is backed by all sections of labor, and most civic groups in the city. He is a very strong contender to break down the lily-white setup in the Board of Education.

Also backed by labor are such well known figures as incumbent

Records Court Judge George Murphy.

Labor is also backing Proposition "E" which would add new taxes to build schools. Many labor people say that while backing Proposition "E," the billions being spent for armaments should be spent for peacetime needs such as schools.

Also backed by labor is the well known attorney James Montante, a leader of the Italian people and a member and former president of the Detroit Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

backing incumbent Mayor Warren Duncan. The first FEPC law in Michigan was won in River Rouge. For backing the FEPC campaign Mayor Duncan is being bitterly attacked by white supremacist elements. His reelection will be one of the guarantees that FEPC will be enforced.

A Charter Amendment "C" in Detroit to let City Council members raise their pay is expected to be defeated. Both CIO and AFL are urging their members to vote straight Democrat in the State

In River Rouge, CIO's PAC is spring elections.



# Peace Knocks at the Door— Who's Keeping It Out?

By JOHN PITTMAN

THE SOVIET UNION and People's China last week offered new proposals for peace in Korea and a settlement of the problem of Germany. The new proposals were coldly received by the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration. The prospect of peace breaking out panicked U. S. war-profiteers, leading to a two-year record of stock and bond sales and tobogganing prices that wiped out in one day more than \$2,000,000,000 in paper values. The mercenary press reflected the Eisenhower-Dulles views, raised in the minds of the American people the question: Are the new peace offers the real thing, or should we see them as a trick to throw us off guard?

The answer to this question was provided by (1) the deeds of the Socialist countries matching their words; (2) the directness and simplicity of the proposals; (3) their reception by other diplomatic and official quarters.

WITH ESTABLISHMENT of the Malenkov government after the death of Joseph Stalin, Soviet statesmen, led by Malenkov himself, have stressed the peaceful aims of Soviet foreign policy. Malenkov declared that all outstanding questions between the USSR and the U. S. could be settled by negotiation. In the three weeks since Malenkov became Premier, Soviet deeds have matched Soviet words in a series of developments commanding attention of the world:

1—Soviet Foreign Minister V. Molotov informed France and Britain that he would try to arrange for the repatriation of French and British civilians in North Korea.

2—The Soviet Commander in Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, eased restrictions on commerce into Berlin.

3—Gen. Chuikov also offered to discuss with the British ways and means of avoiding air incidents in future.

4—The Soviet Union granted visas to a number of U. S. newspapermen, who are now visiting Moscow.

5—Supreme Soviet President Voroshilov told The Netherlands of Soviet support of the efforts of its Ambassador to consolidate Netherlands-Soviet relations.

6—Soviet UN Permanent Representative Andrei Vyshinsky's return to the United Nations enabled the Big Five to reach

agreement on selection of Sweden's Dag Hammarskjöld as successor to Secretary-General Trygve Lie's post.

THE NEW OFFER of the governments of the Chinese People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Soviet proposal for a new attempt to reach agreement on the question of Germany, were direct and simple.

On March 28, the Chinese  
(Continued on Page 15)

## The New York-Harlem Edition Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1941, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XVIII, No. 14 26  
16 Pages

April 5, 1953  
Price 10 Cents

### Let's Really Play It Smart

An Editorial

"BEING mother of an 18-year-old boy these days means nightmares," says the caption on a cartoon in the New York Daily News. It shows a sleepless mother clenching the pillow, her head full of visions of her son marching to battle under a rain of bullets. Beneath this picture is another, a mother and son chatting familiarly in home surroundings. "It also means dreams," says the caption.

The cartoon will no doubt have the widest appeal among News readers because it expresses the fears and the hopes which are closest to the hearts and minds of the millions at this Easter and Passover season.

THESE FEARS and hopes have come into sharp focus because the offer of the Chinese to end the Korean war removes the last pretext for continuing that bloody slaughter.

It seems, however, that it takes two sides to make peace. Although the Chinese have gone three-quarters of the way to meet the U. S., there is no assurance that Washington will accept their offer and stop the killing. The Pentagon is afraid peace will slow down the arms program. Wall Street is afraid profits will fall and the stock market totter.

The Eisenhower Administration therefore fumbles and hesitates while it "takes a long hard look." For this it is praised by the Big Business press, including the Daily News. The News contends that Gen. Mark Clark is "playing it smart," in refusing to be "lured prematurely back" to truce talks.

BUT EVERY DAY while Washington is taking "a long hard look," more American boys are killed. For every hour Clark "plays it smart" more mothers will be tossing in their beds in an agony of fear for their sons, in the manner portrayed by the News cartoon.

During the Easter recess, Congressmen will be home April 2-11; Senators, April 2-7. This is the time for voters and trade unionists to call on them, individually or in delegations, and on their own front porches tell them to remove the fear from American homes by accepting the Chinese offer and bring about a cease-fire in Korea NOW. And today, write or wire President Eisenhower.

## Here's What to Do to Fight the Rent Steal

What tenants can do to prevent the 15 percent rent steal from going into effect May 1:

1. Flood Mayor Impellitteri and the Board of Estimate with demands that (a) they call on Gov. Dewey to include rents on the agenda of the special session of the legislature he plans for late May or early June, and (b) demand that the Governor immediately declare a moratorium on any rent increases pending the special session.

### Mayor to Present Dewey Squeeze Plan

## First Round Tuesday on N. Y. Fare Hike

—See Page 2

2. Wire Gov. Dewey and get the tenants in your house to wire him or write him with the same demands the Mayor and Board of Estimates are being requested to make of him; wire or write your legislators asking they throw their support behind such demands.

3. Urge immediate enactment of a city rent law, telling the Mayor and the City Council that this need not be stymied by legal considerations, that the city can demand enabling legislation from Albany if rents are added to the special session's agenda.

4. Pending enactment of a city rent law or repeal of the new landlord bill and extension of the old rent control law, urge your tenants' council or lodge, union or other organization to call on the people of New York to withhold rent increases pending

(Continued on Page 15)

### HOWARD FAST VISITS WITH WORKER READERS IN CHICAGO

## 'It Is Their Sword and Shield'

By HOWARD FAST

A WEEK AGO I went out to Chicago to be a guest at a banquet given there for The Worker supporters.

I sat at a table in a room packed with working men and women, and listened to their statements of what The Worker meant to them. With one old and dignified Negro worker, it has been a lifetime of association, for he sold the first issue, and he still sells the paper. He said sweetly and gravely, that he had taken this paper to himself, and no man could put them asunder. Then others said much of the same thing in very simple and eloquent words. There was only one paper in the country for them. It told them the truth, and it gave them courage and strength. From it they drew dignity and pride, and out of its pages they made a picture of a future they dreamed of.

I listened to this very humbly, for their distance from the place where the paper was put together and published, seemed to give them an objective point of judgment, and to some extent, they saw The Worker most truthfully. Nothing could replace it or substitute for it, and if it should be taken from them, they would be like men disarmed in the midst of a battle.

Afterwards, still in Chicago, I sat with some people who had thought a good deal about The Worker and how it could be improved. They told me how groups of workers would gather together each week and discuss the contents of the paper. I thought back to how many times I had written something for The Worker with all too little more than casual interest and attention to what I was writing. These packing house, farm equipment, and steel workers read what was written in this

paper with interest far from casual. Line by line, they examined the stories to see what deep meaning there was for them.

The existence of the paper was proof of their own worthiness as a class, and their own hope for their future and their children's future.

And as the weekend progressed, going from one group to another I discovered that this attitude and this point of view was widespread indeed. A newspaper was a sword and a shield to these people, and there was no other sword or shield to replace it.

I wonder whether we have that feeling here at home? For twenty-five years there has been a clockwork-like regularity in the appearance of this brave and honest paper. Thereby, all too many of us come to take for granted what must never be taken for granted. In this Amer-

ica of 1953, The Worker is the embodiment of human freedom. Such freedom never came cheaply or easily. It must be fought for every inch of the way.



HOWARD FAST



## Mayer to Present Dewey Plan to Board of Estimate

# First Round Tuesday On N. Y. Fare Hike

By MICHAEL SINGER

THE STAGE IS SET for the biggest public debate ever to rock City Hall. First round of the fiscal battle will begin Tuesday when Mayor Impellitteri stooges for Gov. Dewey in presenting to the Board of Estimate the city's 1953-54 budget with its higher-

locked 8-8 and the whole fiscal gouge bottled up. (See open letter to Joseph, page 16).

BETWEEN now and Tuesday, the people of New York City have an opportunity to deluge the Mayor with protests against the fare scheme and press Joseph to join the opposition. But suppose the Dewey-Impellitteri plan goes through?

The next round comes up during budget hearings which the mayor's office and the Board of Estimate secretary have announced as on April 13, 14, 15.

These three-day hearings will undoubtedly attract the biggest attendance since the fare debates in

1947. The 15-cent fare which will steal from \$60 to \$90 a year more from the average family and the Authority fare gouge that will rob from \$36 to a possible \$78 annually from each straphanger, head the "NO" list of public demands. Added to these vicious Wall Street moves are the payroll tax threat of .5 percent of each weekly wage that would cut salaries from \$10 to \$60 a year from the average worker, the taxes on other consumer activities, and the wholesale reduction of transit services, mass firings of key city personnel and heavy slashes in municipal functions affecting the life,

(Continued on Page 13)

## THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION

# Delegates Angered by Brush-Off on Wage Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE DELEGATES of the United Automobile Workers' convention left Atlantic City armed with a number of policy decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on labor's course. Many of them, however, were angry because the Reuther administration's schedule left practically no time for discussion of wage and other economic problems.

It was on such questions as the current stalemated negotiations with General Motors, speedup and the grievance procedure in the auto contracts, that the administration expected most opposition. For that reason those issues were left to the final session when the stampede for home was already on.

The windup sessions of the convention, nevertheless, did some important business, including administering two stinging defeats to the administration.

The big question is whether many of this union's policy decisions will be really fought for, or just remain in the convention proceedings. Also, in view of Reuther's CIO presidency, whether the UAW's policy will influence the CIO's stand.

It is noted, for example, that CIO publications, including CIO News, failed to give mention to the International Relations resolution which calls for acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for negotiations. Other resolutions, including the important one on political action have been ignored in the CIO press.

THE POLITICAL action resolution calls for an "independent political action movement" to meet Wall Street's new challenge, consisting of a coalition of labor, farm and other forces. The CIO is urged to initiate such a movement aiming at a national conference to influence the 1956 election. Similar state conferences are called for every two years to influence congressional elections. The object is a political "realignment" with labor's "independent" influence within the existing political parties based on a machinery of the coalition from the pre-



WALTER REUTHER

cinct up to be built in the meantime.

Closely related to this resolution is one on labor unity which, while favoring the scheduled merger negotiations with the AFL on April 7, also calls for united labor action on the immediate issues facing labor.

THE ADMINISTRATION met defeat in its effort to force locals to extend the terms of their officers now a year to two years. It also sustained a setback when the appeal of Maynard Bussey, Negro committeeman of the Cadillac shop, dismissed by General Motors, was upheld by a better than a four-to-one majority.

When the two-year term constitutional change came up (after much caucus preparation), delegates angrily denounced it as a move to bring "AFL practices" into the UAW. Speakers said annual elections make possible the removal of office holders who abuse their positions. On a hand-

vote of the delegates, Reuther claimed the change was approved. When a roll-call was demanded, he claimed there were not the 775 hands required for a rollcall. After an explosion of protests, a count of the hands was ordered. A new explosion came when Reuther's tellers counted 772 hands. A retally showed 812 hands for a rollcall. With the indications of a defeat quite clear, the Reuther forces agreed to leave the decision to each local.

THE BUSSEY appeal was against the International GEB's ruling upholding the company's claim that Bussey failed to give notice of absence when he was out three days and was, therefore, a "voluntary quit." Bussey who was given only five minutes to plead his case, said he and two others in his behalf had called up the company. He read an affidavit from one person to back his claim and had a doctor's certificate.

Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey for the administration and the president of Bussey's local, admitted that this was "strictly a case of credibility," but gave no plausible reason why they preferred to believe the company against a fellow worker. That so angered the delegates that despite the hurry to go home, many fought for the floor.

THE ADMINISTRATION barely missed defeat again on a close hand vote when in the next appeals case of a white racketeer of a Chicago local who admitted stealing money, working with the company against the union and attempting to break a strike, for whom a new trial was ordered because of a minor technicality.

Another final act of the convention was to put Walter Reuther in the \$18,000 a year class (his salary was formerly \$11,250) and Mazey at \$14,000 (from \$10,750); \$12,500 for the two vice-presidents and \$10,000 for each of the 19 regional directors.

The UAW's convention was first major union parley since Eisenhower took over. There wasn't a single government speaker nor even a formal wire from the President.

## POINT OF ORDER!

WHY?

By Alan Max

Why are the newspapers here always warning against what they call a Soviet and Chinese "peace offensive"? Is it because they find peace so offensive?

## THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

### • Meany's Dim View on Unity • Electric Plant Votes AFL

THE FIRST MAJOR industry strike on a nationwide scale began Thursday with a shut-down of the United States Rubber's 19 plants under contract with the United Rubber Workers, CIO, employing 35,000 workers. When a one-day extension of the pact expired and no agreement was announced from Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, where negotiations are still on, pickets closed the plants across the nation.

Wages are not involved. The deadlock was over hospitalization, pensions and length of contract. The company, largest in the tire and rubber field, operates plants in Detroit, Nantucket, Conn., Passaic and North Bergen, N.J., Los Angeles, Fort Wayne, Eau Claire, Wis., Milan, Tenn., Mishawaka, Ind., Cicero, Ill., and Woonsocket and Providence, R.I.

GEORGE Meany, AFL president, discussing the talks scheduled April 7 with the CIO for a merger, said "the odds are against it." He based his conclusion on the speech of Walter Reuther before the convention of the UAW-CIO at which the CIO head listed conditions for such merger, including the preservation of industrial form; no jimcrow; protection against jurisdictional invasion by crafts and cleanup of racketeering.

Meany said that before there could be peace talks there "ought to be a cease-fire of some kind" with no discussion of the "delicate" problems in public. Meany's statement took the main head of the front page of the AFL News-Reporter. It says: "Labor Peace Hope Dimmed."

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won 2,228 to 1,591 at the Indianapolis plant of Western Electric, outsting the CIO's Communications Workers of America that held bargaining rights. This gave the AFL challenger in the telephone field two of the three big plants of the Western Electric.

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association and his executive board held a session with

George Meany and AFL secretary-treasurer William Schnitzer to report "progress" on the "cleanup" of racketeers in the I.L.A. Main purpose of the meeting seemed to be to get an extension beyond the April 30 deadline by which time Ryan was to carry out the cleanup directives—or at least give the union a new face.

SEVEN THOUSAND members of the unaffiliated Telephone Workers Union of New Jersey walked out for a raise of 20 cents an hour tying up the state's system (but for dial equipment). Members of the CIO's Communication Workers of America respected their picket lines. . . . United States Steel laid off more than 50,000 workers in its Pittsburgh area plants when 4,500 workers of the company-owned railroad serving the plants walked out over the suspension of two workers. The company immediately began banking furnaces.

AMERICAN WOOLEN raised anew its threat to move plants South as its representative argued in Boston before an arbitrator for a wage cut totaling 31 cents an hour. . . . At Paterson, N.J., 1,000 jacquard workers were set to strike if the companies do not renew the old pact and drop their demand for a cut of 15 cents an hour and other concessions. . . . The IUE-CIO General Electric Conference rejected the company's offer of about 2.5 cents an hour as had the UE a week earlier. They are negotiating on a wage reopener. . . . The Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced 150,000 members in the clothing division won a raise of 12½ cents an hour and some fringe benefits. This was followed by a raise of 10 cents an hour for cotton workers and some fringes. Those were the first raises since 1950. . . . Eight thousand workers of Macy's Department store were heading towards a possible strike when they give the decision at a membership meeting April 8. They seek a cut in hours from 40 to 35 without a cut in pay.

## Strike Vote April 8 Set by Macy Workers

By ELIHU S. HICKS

IF THE BOSSES of Macy's department store insist on calling their workers' demands for higher wages, shorter hours, etc., "outrageous," rather than sensibly working out a contract to replace the one that expired last week, they may be faced with a strike. That's what the 8,000-odd members of Local 15, United Department Store Workers of America (CIO) told Macy's last week, and they are scheduled to take a strike vote on April 8 just to cross the "T."

In simultaneous before-work picket lines around each of the five Macy stores Wednesday morning, about 4,000 of the workers appealed to the public to support them in their fight. The day before, Local 15 president, Sam Kovenetsky, told 350 Macy shop stewards, section and district leaders that they might well have to

strike in order to maintain a minimum standard of living. The rank and file leaders responded by pledging to mobilize all the workers for whatever action might be necessary.

The April 8 meeting, to be held at Manhattan Center, will act on a unanimous recommendation of the negotiations committee to authorize strike action.

The workers have already been assured the support of the City CIO Council and the powerful Transport Workers Union in the event of a strike. Michael J. Quill, president of both those organizations, also promised to enlist support from the local AFL unions.

As The Worker went to press the negotiators were continuing to meet while the workers prepared their organization to "take more drastic action" in the event they have to "negotiate with their feet."



# Fear Mine City To Be Ghost Town

Coal production down; jobless ranks grow

By HARRY RAYMOND  
WASHINGTON

**R**ALEIGH COUNTY, W. Va., with the town of Beckley its main urban center, was once a prosperous coal mining and agricultural area. But today Raleigh County is in the throes of economic crisis and the people of Beckley fear their town may soon become a ghost town.

The situation in Beckley became so bad that the Bureau of Employment Security of the Department of Labor sent a crew of investigators to the town to "survey the unemployment conditions."

When the crew returned to Washington it got out a little report. Here is what the investigators found:

• Of the total labor force of 25,000 in the Beckley area, which includes all of Raleigh County, a total of 2,800 or more than 10 percent were unemployed in January.

• The area has been experiencing an employment decline since 1950, largely because of the industry-wide decrease in bituminous coal mining.

• Some further layoffs in the coal industry are expected to add to the labor supply this spring.

"IT IS ESTIMATED that there were 1,350, or 12 percent, fewer coal miners employed in the area in January, 1953, than in the same month in 1952," said the Department of Labor report. "No new operations are known to have opened during the past year while seven operations involving the loss of 800 jobs were closed. In addition to the decrease, in the number of persons on mining payrolls, under-employment has become fairly prevalent. A three-day week is relatively common and some mines operate only one day a week."

The report goes on to tell how the decline in the coal industry has affected other parts of the area's economy, how lumbering has felt the decrease in demand for mining props and all manufacturing activities experienced employment loss in the last year.

Other industry in the area includes bakeries, dairy products, food products and a soft drinks plant. About 400 workers are employed in non-electrical manufacturing machinery and in lumber and wood products. The non-electrical machinery group is made up of two establishments, with the larger one doing mostly job shop work.

There is also a printing and publishing plant, a cinder block factory and a Veterans Administration hospital in the area.

**DURING THE LAST** two years Raleigh County leaders have been making intensified efforts to attract new industries to the area. But no new industries came. And the area sunk lower and lower in the bog of economic crisis.

What is the Labor Department's solution? It has discovered that Beckley's economy is not like the nation's big manufacturing centers, geared to production of war materials. Beckley has received none of the false prosperity of war.

So the Labor Department has suggested the Surplus Manpower Committee conduct another investigation of the Beckley area to see if it has facilities and skilled workers essential for war production.

If these facilities and workers



## Coal Output Lowest in 15 Years

**THE SHARP INCREASE** in unemployment among miners represents more than a temporary lull in mining activity. According to the Bureau of Mines, production of hard coal is steadily declining, showing a loss of 16 percent from 1951, and is now at the lowest yearly total in the past generation.

Similarly, soft coal production for 1952 was 18 percent below the previous year and at its lowest figure since 1938.

**STARTLING** as these figures are, they do not reveal the worst side of the picture—what is happening in the miners' daily lives. Unemployment among miners is made even more serious by factors not present in most other industrial jobs today.

**MINING AREAS** have no other industries in which the unemployed can find temporary work during the recurring layoffs or be retrained for other skills.

When the mines close down, everything closes down, and Pennsylvania is dotted with "ghost towns," where mining operations have ceased, forcing the miners to become migrants.

Also, over a period of years, most miners have been only partially employed, making it harder to survive the constant periods of unemployment.

are found, says the Labor Department, the area will be certified for "preferential treatment in the placement of government procurement."

It never seems to have occurred to the government economists that what Raleigh County, W. Va., and other crisis-ridden areas of the U. S. needs today is the lifting of trade embargos with the Soviet Union, China and the People's Democracies of Europe.

These great nations are ready to trade their goods with Raleigh County and other communities now feeling the bite of the war crisis. Such peaceful trade would bring employment to the areas wracked with joblessness and misery.



# Farmers Worried as Their Income Goes on the Skids

By CARL HIRSCH

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILL.

**F**ARMERS hereabouts are panicky about the bogging down of farm income which they say has already reached the crisis stage.

The small-scale corn-hog farmers we talked to here confessed they were "worried stiff." As one man just outside of Selbytown put it to us, "The bottom has fell out of things and the government doesn't seem to give a damn."

Just as they look for seasonal omens, these farmers today are anxiously searching for signs of a let-up in the squeeze caused by the high prices of things they buy and the headlong decline in the market value of the produce they have to sell.

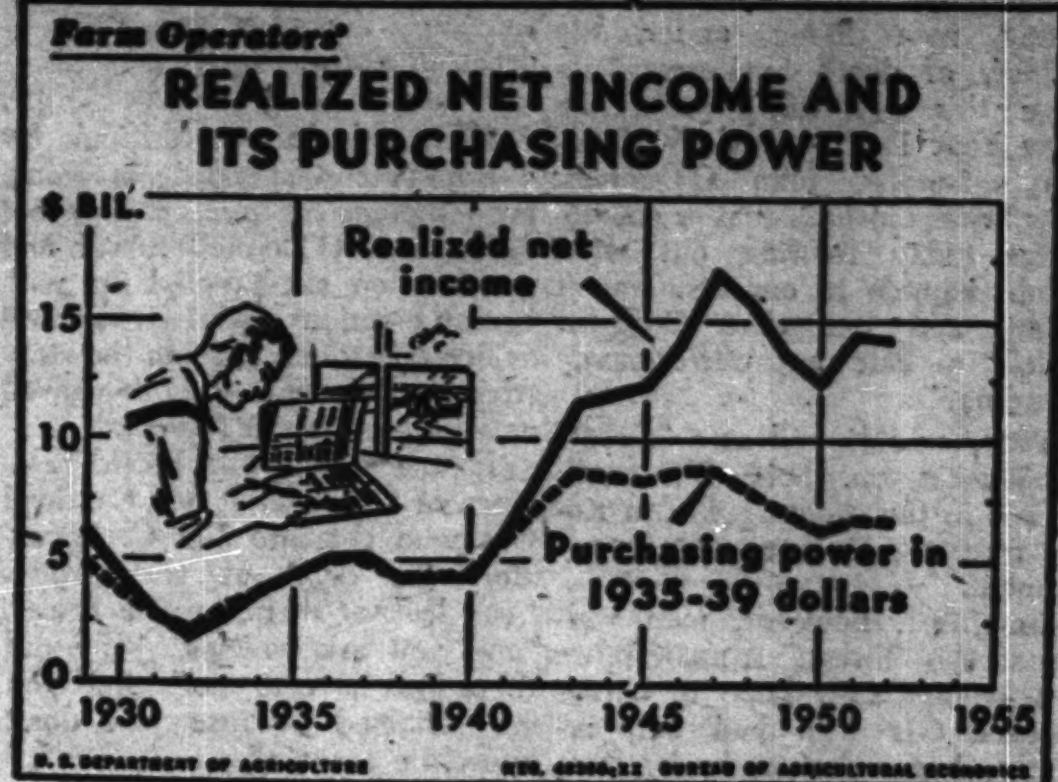
**BEEF CATTLE** have taken the sharpest market drops (although city folks have no evidence of it), with pork not far behind. And the indications point to more declines in both perishable and non-perishable commodities.

A group of farmers we met in Springfield were in the state capital to press for government price supports.

They had heard about the recent picketing of Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson when he attended the National Farm Institute in Des Moines.

This was an impressive display of farmer-labor unity, with members of the Farmers Union and of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers parading in front of the Des Moines Hotel. They carried signs calling for 100 percent parity and demanded an interview with Benson.

One sign in the "Parity Parade" declared, "Ike Said Full Parity—How About It, Benson?"



**THE STATEMENT** by the delegates underscored the growing problems for both farmers and workers growing out of the mounting crisis. They said, "Farmers are taking disastrous losses and workers are faced with unemployment in the meat packing and other industries because of the failure of the Department of Agriculture to do anything about supporting livestock prices."

**FARMERS HERE**, many of whom supported the Eisenhower campaign, are now beginning to wonder whether they were duped by campaign promises.

All the weather vanes point to trouble for the small producer, with many farmers shaking their heads and talking about the farm crisis of the 20's which preceded the crash.

American Steel Institute figures show that the market for steel materials, 1 on the farm has softened up drastically—farm machinery, bailing wire, fencing, steel siding.

Another important indicator

of the trend is the drop in farm land values. This was detailed in a report last week by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago headed, "Land Values Pass Peak."

The report declared that "declining farm product prices have halted the boom in farm real estate."

**VARIOUS TYPES** of farmers here are being hit in special ways. We heard the worrisome expressions of young farmers who "bought high" and are now saddled with huge debts which are becoming increasingly unpayable.

We heard from small cattle feeders who are being forced to unload their expensive beef to the packers at what they call "depression prices."

We talked to hog raisers who are trying to sell "before the break," only to find the market glutted.

They keep telling us it's going to blow over," one Will County man told us, "but we're liable to grow old in the storm cellar."

# 'Fed Up', 5,000 Tie up Buffalo Plant

Westinghouse arrogant since GOP victory; need for unity seen

**ON THURSDAY** morning, March 19, word ran through the working force at the big Cheektowaga Westinghouse plant here that they were not coming back after lunch.

There were no union instructions. The workers were just "fed up." The company, they said, needed a "knock on the head."

At lunch, 3,100 walked out and refused to return. The second shift came in on schedule, worked four hours and walked out. The grave yard shift checked in as usual, worked four hours and quit.

In all, more than 5,000 workers took part in this spontaneous walk-out.

**THE STOPPAGE** was not exceptional. It was a sample of the increasing bitterness of the class battle in the factories in this center of heavy industry.

Two weeks earlier, the immense Bethlehem steel plant in neighboring Lackawanna was hit by two such stoppages in key departments, involving 3,500 workers. The Bell Aircraft plant was having a series of small department stoppages, one following the other. And then there were the full-fledged, "legitimate" strikes, like the 15 weeks walk-out at Worthington Pump, where 2,000 workers belong to the CIO steelworkers.

What is it all about?

The union leadership at Westinghouse, which is organized in Local 1581 of the CIO electrical workers (IUE), gave as the reason for the walk-out after getting over its first surprise and taking con-

trol—refusal of the company to settle a series of grievances.

**THESE INCLUDED** use of "temporary" assignments to get around the contract's overtime and upgrading clauses; failure to upgrade workers; layoffs out of line with seniority; overlapping of three-shift operations.

These were serious grievances, and they irked the workers. But behind them was the wide feeling that the company had become unbearably arrogant; that with its big business gang so absolutely in control in Washington, the company was stepping up its chiselling operations, which go on all the time, and was stalling when the union tried to stop these chiselling practices.

In short, the Eisenhower Administration had a double effect: it encouraged the big companies to become tougher with the workers, and it thus began building up a tougher fighting spirit on the part of the workers.

There was a second reason for the bitterness of the Westinghouse workers. They were learning, with the help of leaflets distributed by the United Electrical Workers Union, how they were being robbed systematically through speedup of a big chunk of pay.

Company figures proved that throughout the Westinghouse chain, there had been a 32.2 percent increase in each worker's production in the past three years as a result of speedup alone — not counting new machinery and better methods.

Workers had thus done themselves out of a sixth day of work a week at overtime. Their take-home pay was cut by a quarter,

or nearly \$20 a week — but they were producing more, not less, in five days than they had once been getting out in six days.

**THE FIGURES SHOWED**, too, that if they got six-days' pay for 40 hours work, the company would still be making a healthy profit. By the company's own reckoning, they were putting in 4½ hours for themselves and 3½ hours for the company every day they worked.

These were a few of the things that bothered the Westinghouse workers as they walked out that day, as they bother others in the plants here.

The stoppage was supposed to be a half-day demonstration. But the company locked the workers out the next day. They could not come back until the following Monday, but they forced negotiation of grievances.

Because the Westinghouse workers know from experience what the Eisenhower victory has meant, they have a new attitude toward unity. At the local's December meeting, they voted to instruct their officers to demand of the IUE's Westinghouse Conference Board that it seeks unity with all other unions in the Westinghouse chain in negotiating with the company.

**IUE PRESIDENT** James Carey gave the local leaders a tongue-lashing for obeying these instructions. But the local came right back at its March meeting and reaffirmed its instructions to its officers.

The demand was raised, too, that the union seek, in a wage-reopener, 48 hours pay for 40 hours work.



# 'Why Did These Kids Have to Die?'

By BERNARD BURTON

**THE PROSPECT OF PEACE** in Korea brought the jitters to Washington and new hope to young men living under the shadow of death in Korea. "Believe this reporter," wrote the New York Daily News' Washington columnist, John O'Donnell, "our leaders in both parties got the jitters today figuring out what would happen to our economy if voters and our next Congress called a halt on war-economy spending."

Peace was viewed as a "threat" in Washington. Said O'Donnell: "Peace in the shooting war in Korea threatens to break out at any moment."

In Korea, however, men welcomed this "threat." It made sense and brought new hope to battle-shocked GIs who had only recently been drawn back from the fruitless attacks on Old Baldy.

a poor excuse for a hill a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. A Washington columnist, such as O'Donnell, can sit around coldly weighing the pros and cons of peace in Korea.

IT IS a little more difficult for a combat correspondent in Korea even though his politics may not differ from O'Donnell's. War and peace often get tangled up with human emotions. Dead GIs as well as live ones often get into the story from Korea where peace is viewed as a blessing, not a "threat."

In the New York World-Telegram of March 27 it was the dead GIs who got into Jim C. Lucas' story—the dead of Old Baldy. "You look at them," wrote Lucas, "and you ask yourself, 'why did these kids have to die?' And you are ashamed because you don't know the answer."

Lucas keeps probing for the

answer in his dispatch, the sort of answer he could give if one of those kids asked him for an answer. He says, "I guess I know, deep inside," the reason—the kind of "reason" which his publisher and the Daily News' publisher have been spouting for three death-filled spring seasons in Korea. But Lucas doesn't feel he can give that kind of reason to the kids in Korea.

"If those boys under those brown wool blankets," he writes, "on those bloody stretchers sat up and asked me why they died on Old Baldy, I'd have to answer: 'I don't know, Mac. I just don't know.'"

THE SCRIPPS-HOWARD writer gets a glimpse of the truth but doesn't probe it very far. "We've lost thousands of men in the fight against tyranny during the last 10

American soldiers in Korea.

years. But in the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for. . . . Sure, it was tough losing them but there was a reason for it. And—since there was a reason—men achieved dignity in death."

"When a man is asked to die, he deserves to know why. It should be for more than for Baldy, or for prestige, or to buy a stalemate."

THE SOLDIERS—the dead and the quick—got into the Times also on March 27, in a dispatch from the front, from Robert W. Alden: "The fight for Old Baldy is," wrote Alden, "as a professional soldier

might say, 'a rough go.' These men who are fighting for us are not professional soldiers. They are for the most part farm boys, students and clerks. They want to live very much. They don't have the will to make a reckless bayonet charge in a way, for example, that a group of trained paratroopers might."

Somehow, Alden's paragraph brought this writer's thoughts back to Italy and to Lucas' piece. We were not professional soldiers in Italy, either, and Italy was a battle for one rocky hill after another when it was not looking up into enemy artillery from the beach of Anzio. But we took the hills, some

(Continued on Page 15)

## WALL STREET FATTENED ON KOREA WAR

# Peace Scare Sends Stocks Tumbling

By ROB F. HALL

"THERE'S a peace scare in Wall Street today," wrote Sylvia Porter, the New York Evening Post's financial reporter on Tuesday. She referred to Big Business reaction at Chinese Premier Chou En-lai's offer to accept new terms on the POW issue—in effect, a proposal to end the Korean war now.

News of Chou's offer brought a break in the stock market. By Monday's closing time, "virtually the entire market went on the to-boggan," said the New York Times, calling it the "widest one-day break since October 1951." The combined average of 50 stocks fell 3.20 points. "War babies," stocks of industries tied in most closely to the arms program, fell sharpest but an average of all industrials was almost five points down.

On Tuesday, there was another wide break, taking stocks to their lowest since November 1952. Selling was so active that the tickers fell as much as four minutes behind the actual market. Losses ranged to more than two points, with aircraft, metals, rails and utilities the worst hit.

EVEN BEFORE the sweepers had cleared the litter of ticker tape from the floor of the Stock Exchange, investment bankers and corporation officials were having what Miss Porter called a "chilling debate about the possibility of a Malenkov depression."

There's a frightening discussion as to whether this peace prospect will force the Administration into risking a sharply reduced armament program—thus making recession later in 1953 a virtual certainty.

since the summer of 1950," the Department of Commerce said recently.

In Washington, the New York Daily News correspondent John O'Donnell reported that leaders of both parties "got the jitters trying to figure out what would happen to our economy" if peace were really to break out and remove the pretext for the arms program.

Owners of stock in the big corporations which have been fattening on war orders were wondering whether their days at the cashpots were over. Corporation profits before taxes in the three-year period covering the Korean war have totalled over \$123 billion. In 1952, profits were close to \$40 billion with \$17 billion remaining after taxes, allowing dividends to stockholders to the tune of \$9.5 billion, highest in history.

CONTINUED or increased profits were expected for the current year. "Aircraft manufacturing companies, most of which had recorded sizable gains in gross and net in 1952, are facing an even better prospect for 1953," the Wall Street Journal said Feb. 24.

Between 1951 and 1952, total profits of 23 leading aircraft corporations rose from \$48.7 million to \$62 million, a rise of 27 percent, according to the National City Bank Letter for March.

Financial experts and Big Business publications have frankly admitted these astronomical profits came from government war orders and the resultant war economy.

"The enlargement of federal expenditures to provide for the nation's security has greatly influenced American economic scene

since the summer of 1950," the Department of Commerce said recently.

THE NOVEMBER issue of Guaranty Survey, bulletin of the Guaranty Trust Co., noted that "today's prosperity admittedly rests upon a temporary foundation" which foundation, it conceded, was "the rearmament program."

And Prof. Gerhard Colm voiced the Big Business fear in a recent book:

"If defense spending should level off or contract at the same time as business investments are on the downgrade of the cycle, a serious recession would develop," he wrote.

The Wall Street Journal of March 30 included the Chinese demand for a resumption of truce talks among "potential trouble-making possibilities" and said they "might have a considerable deflationary impact on business psychology."

UNDER the protective coloring of war preparations, the corporations have been able to hold prices high while wages were frozen. This added up to the record profits which Big Business now fears is threatened by the "trouble-making" possibility of peace.

For this reason Big Business will exert every pressure at its command to block acceptance of Chou En-lai's proposals. The Eisenhower Administration will follow the Big Business line, to protect Big Business profits, unless the people's demand for peace is so loud and so insistent that it cannot be ignored.

## THE WEEK IN WORLD AFFAIRS

### Two Soviet Measures— Amnesty and Price Slashes

PREMIER MALENKOV'S government last week carried out two impressive measures reflecting the strength of the Soviet social system:

1. A SECOND AMNESTY DECREE since the end of the war freed all prisoners serving five years or less; dropped prosecution against all cases in which the major sentence would be five years or less; freed all women with children under 10, pregnant women, minors of 18 years or less, men over 55, women over 50 and persons suffering from incurable illnesses, regardless of the length of their sentences. Excluded from this sweeping amnesty were persons serving more than five years for counter-revolutionary crimes, large-scale theft or embezzlement of public property, gangsterism or premeditated murder.

2. THE SIXTH PRICE CUT since the end of the war cut food prices 10 percent; clothes 15 percent; vodka 11 percent; beer 15 percent; cotton and silk goods 15 percent; cigarettes and tobacco 5 to 10 percent; shoes 8 to 10 percent; refrigerators and washing machines 20 percent; hammers and sickles 20 percent; musical instruments 10 percent; kerosene and gasoline 25 percent, and so on.

IN THE "FREE WORLD," things were not so good. Tito reported to Yugoslavia on re-

turning from Britain that Prime Minister Churchill had assured him British would defend his regime if he is attacked. . . .

President Einaudi of Italy signed the "electoral reform" law of Premier de Gasperi which was passed in the Senate after gagging the Communists, and which gives 380 of the 590 seats in the Chamber of Deputies to whatever party or group that obtains more than 50 percent of the popular vote. Elections were set for June 7. . . . The French Government ordered a cut of 10 percent in imports from Western Europe and the sterling area, while in Washington Premier Rene Mayer rejected Secretary of State Dulles' demand to ratify the European Army Treaty unless full agreement is reached with Germany on French control of Saar coal and steel. . . . The Burmese government asked the United Nations to declare Chiang Kai-shek's gang on Formosa an aggressor because of U. S.-aided depredations against Burmese by Chiang guerrillas. Moreover Burma announced dropping of U. S. "aid" effective as of June 1. . . . Just to rub in the salt, the United Nations World Economic Report of 1951-52 declared that the Socialist countries had made big gains in both trade and production, as compared with the capitalist world.

# Korea Peace? The Man in the Street Says Okay

By LESTER RODNEY

THE ASSIGNMENT was to ask the "man in the street" the following question: "Do you think we should agree to a cease-fire right away in Korea in view of China's offer to compromise the prisoner of war issue?" I took a copy of the Daily Worker with the big headline "NEW PEACE OFFER—China's Terms on POWs Hailed," and headed for Washington Square park, a meeting place of mothers, NYU students, and, this day, some workers taking off the Jewish holiday of Passover.

Two men wheeling a load of dresses along University Place sidewalk were the first approached. "Why shouldn't they stop it?" said the older man, in his 30s or 40s, "Who cares about those prisoners anyhow?"

The younger man, in his earlier 20s, chewed it over a minute and then said, "If the reds want to call it quits, we should be willing. If they're sincere, this is fine."

they're sincere" was to crop up often during the afternoon's interviews, apparently repeated from newspapers, radio and TV commentators. It fell away quickly in most cases with a little conversation. For example, the younger man wound up by saying with sudden candor, "If you ask me, I don't really understand what that war's all about anyhow."

IN SUNNY Washington Square there was no difficulty in finding people to interview. "I'll believe the war's over when I see it," said a student cynically. "All this stuff is propaganda."

Another student spoke with the only vindictive note the reporter was to encounter.

"I wouldn't trust those Ch. . . s anyhow," he said, using a contemptuous term for the Chinese people. "Why aren't YOU over there fighting on their side?"

A middle aged woman sitting facing the sun with the Heart Journal American on her lap an-

swered the question gently: "It's a sin if one more boy gets killed over there. This killing is against God."

ANOTHER man right behind him said with some heat: "We never had any business there in the first place. Truman never consulted Congress about sending our troops." He agreed there should be an immediate cease-fire, with no ifs or buts.

Three mothers of small children sitting together regarded the headline and one asked "What is this POW? Prisoner of war, I said. 'Oh, yes, that's right,' nodded one of the trio, 'I remember now.' All three had no idea what the POW issue was about—I can't make head or tail out of it," one said. I gave a brief explanation of the issue and one of the women started laughing.

"YOU MEAN to tell me that's the only thing they're fighting the whole war about?" she asked

amusement. Not one of the three would believe it. Nor could any of them be convinced. I had to give up trying. It would probably have taken a long, patient hour to make them see what is, indeed, a shocking truth, that Old Baldy, T-Bone Hill and big casualty lists are continuing over an alleged concern for the fate of prisoners of the other side.

"I don't trust Eisenhower to do right," a man said. "He fooled the people to get elected in the first place, so why should we think he'll make peace now?"

A student said briefly, "Sure, if they're sincere about it."

His companion morted his answer "What a question to ask me! I'm just one step ahead of the draft now!"

Two young parents with their baby carriage behind them nodded their heads quickly. "Of course," the woman said with smiling emphasis.

A YOUNG NEGRO man said

"Sure they should stop it. It's a bloody mess and should have been over long ago. What good is it?"

A group of three book-carrying students inspected the Daily Worker headline as I asked the question.

"I'm a capitalist warmonger," chuckled a red head, "You don't want to talk to me."

He seemed a little surprised when I smiled, and persisted in asking him how he felt about stopping the fighting in light of China's new offer, no matter what other opinions he had about capitalism, socialism or the Daily Worker.

"OK," he said seriously, "put this down. We should make peace if they're sincere. But we should keep our guard up. Strength brings respect and is the way to peace, not appeasement."

But you're for a cease-fire right now on the basis of China's offer?

He hesitated, then said "Yes."

"OK," I said, "I'll shake with a capitalist warmonger on that."

And we did.



## Red Husbands Says

### The Wonderful Machine

NO MORE SERIOUS THREAT has ever faced the Eisenhower Administration than Sen. Joe McCarthy's suggestion that the lie detector be put to use on Capitol Hill. McCarthy wanted it used on Charles E. Bohlen, Eisenhower's nominee for Ambassador to the Soviet Union.

The very idea of involving a lie detector in capitalist politics must have scared the pants off of every politician within 1,000 miles of Washington, D. C.

I don't believe in the machine because I don't share capitalism's desperate faith in gimmicks. The machine is based on the principle that people are nervous and their blood pressure goes up when they tell a lie. As soon as the machine hears a lie, it goes BONG!

If we assume that the machine actually does its job, can you imagine the anarchy on Capitol Hill if it was widely used?

First we have Eisenhower, taking the great machine test:

Question: What is the basic aim of your Administration?

Answer: My basic aim is world peace.

BONG!

Next Dulles takes the test:

Question: What is the purpose of the intervention in Korea?



Dulles: The intervention in Korea is to defend democracy and liberty.

BONG!

Now Baruch, the Elder Statesman, submits:

Question: What is the essence of the Baruch Plan on atomic energy?

Baruch: The essence of the plan is to remove the danger of atomic war and disseminate information about

atomic energy.

BONG!

Next we have C. E. Wilson:

Question: What did you have to do before joining the Cabinet?

Answer: I had to make a tremendous personal financial sacrifice.

BONG!

But now something unusual happens. Senator McCarthy submits to the test. And what happens.

Question: Senator, what is the purpose of your proposed investigations?

Answer: I have but one purpose. To secure freedom and liberty for the American people.

No reaction from the machine.

Question: Senator, what is your greatest ambition?

Answer: My greatest ambition is to secure the best of everything for the American working class.

Still no reaction from the machine. Is it broken?

Question: Pardon me, Senator. What time is it?

The Senator looks at his watch.

Answer: The time is now 3:30 p.m.

BONG! BONG! BONG!

It takes a long time to figure this out. Why was the machine silent on all the other answers? Why did it explode when the Senator gave the correct time?

The solution is quite simple. McCarthy gets nervous and his blood pressure goes up only when he tells the truth.

That applies to others on Capitol Hill, and that's why the machine won't be much use.

# Unity Against Reaction in the Municipal Elections

By PAUL MERCER

**M**ORE than 1,000 city, county and state elections are taking place this year. Except for New Jersey and Virginia, where state offices too are at stake, the contests center in the municipalities and include New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Newark and scores of other major centers in the South as well as in other areas.

In many instances nominations have closed and primary and final voting is scheduled for April and May. However, while there is some evidence of labor and people's activity in a number of states, it does not appear that Communists and other progressives are as yet taking an effective part in these electoral struggles.

**W**HATEVER special features they may have and there will be many which must be studied concretely—the basic character and significance of the '53 municipal elections flow from the fact that they take place in the immediate aftermath of the Eisenhower victory. This means that Republican-Dixiecrat reaction will seek at all costs to use these elections to consolidate their national victory and extend locally their grip on the political life of the American people. Hence, any tendency to view the municipal elections as unimportant or to approach them as purely local, isolated struggles would do grave injury to the people.

The national offensive against the peace, living standards and democratic rights of the American people which have been stepped up in the first 50 days of the the Eisenhower regime has its counterpart in the municipalities where the reaction is speeding up its drive to "coordinate" civic life into a pro-war pro-fascist pattern.

Here, the offensive takes a number of specific forms. The growing housing, health and educational needs of the people are sacrificed more and more to Wall Street's gods of "defense" and "economy." Essential city services are cut, taxes shifted to the urban poor through sales and wage taxes, utility rate hikes multiplied. The drive towards fascism is furthered through local regimes of police brutality against the Negro people, of propaganda and violence against labor and of witch-hunt repression in the schools and cultural life of the communities. Exploiting the mass outcry against crime and corruption in government, reaction is working night and day to capture the good gov-

ernment slogans and movements and turn them into Big Business-controlled anti-labor "municipal reform" channels.

These offensives however are not born of strength but of desperation. Nor are they going unchallenged. Increasingly, they are serving to confirm the fears of the main mass of labor, Negro and other democratic voters who opposed the Republican ticket in 1952 and to create deep concern as well among many who supported Eisenhower. Never has a Presidential honeymoon been so short-lived.

Conditions are ripening for setting in motion new waves of parallel and united action for peaceful negotiations, against the spreading of the war and for an immediate truce in Korea, for wage-increases and against anti-labor legislation, for repeal of the McCarran-Walter Act, for passage of FEPC legislation, against the McCarthyite inquisition and the like.

In the municipalities where the brazen looting of public funds by war-bent Big Business-gangster set-ups and the shameful disregard of people's needs have become national scandals, the situation is especially ripe. Tremendous possibilities have opened up for broad electoral movements flowing directly from the key civic questions and struggles and intimately linked with the whole national struggle against war and fascism.

**WHAT ARE SOME of the general requirements for a broad coalition policy in the municipal elections? What are some of the obstacles to its execution?**

First, left-progressives view as their central objective to influence the mainstream of city political life. For the mainstream of city political life, properly understood, comprises the key issues that move the main masses of labor, Negro and other democratic forces in the municipalities, the chief unions and other people's organizations in which these voters are organized, and the main political forms and bodies through which they express themselves on platforms and candidacies. To hold aloof from this mainstream is the very opposite of a coalition policy.

To influence this mainstream is no simple task. It requires a stubborn fight to master the innumerable united front problems which broad electoral activities present in the local areas. At the same time, it requires an equally stubborn and prolonged fight to overcome an accumulation of sectarian electoral policies and practices which have tended to isolate the left from the mainstream in past years.

Too often Communists and other progressives have tackled the problem of influencing the main-

stream exclusively from the outside. The result has been municipal electoral policies which in fact confined activity to occasional left-independent or third party candidates or to narrow campaigns for full tickets representative only of the left and advanced forces. Such policies in practice mean standing aloof from the mainstream. They can only further the isolation of the left from the organized masses of labor and Negro voters.

This in no way denies the vital and necessary role which well-chosen left-progressive, advanced and Communist candidacies play, especially in influencing the issues and thinking of the mainstream. On the contrary, the point is that such candidacies can not and do not fulfill this vital role unless they are an integral but supplementary part of an over-all electoral tactic the central aim of which is to influence the mainstream primarily from within and not only or chiefly from without.

On the other hand, where, as often in the past, advanced candidacies become the exclusive tactic, where such candidacies become ends in themselves instead of necessary supplemental means, the mainstream can not be influenced effectively. The result in this period can only be illusory perspectives, frustration and electoral setbacks. And this is true, however, energetically such policies of self-isolation are advanced, however difficult may be the problems of influencing the mainstream from within.

A coalition policy in the municipal elections therefore requires not only that the Left as a whole center its attention upon influencing the civic mainstream but that the main forces of the Left enter actively into the mainstream. That is why the Left is so urgently concerned with stepping up the main base of the Left from the advanced Left-led organizations to the right-led unions, Negro, women, youth and other organizations. That is why the Left forces now in these organizations face the main immediate responsibility of helping to advance the role of these bodies, and especially of labor and its political action arms, PAC, LLPE etc., in the municipal campaigns now taking place. Necessarily, the independent activity of advanced third party and independent bodies must also be evaluated primarily in terms of how effectively they make their special contributions towards influencing the mainstream.

**ONE CENTRAL THREAD** runs through civic life generally in the '53 elections. This is the growing popular revolt against corrupt political machines, a re-

volt which reflects not only the many recent exposures of crime and corruption but also the vast mass of critical unsolved city problems of housing, health, taxation, utilities and the like which the Big Business-gangster alliance have allowed to accumulate and which they wish to solve at the expense of the people.

This veritable crisis of the cities is seen in the waterfront investigations in New York and New Jersey, in the overturn of corrupt machines and the continuation of the anti-machine struggle in new forms as in Philadelphia, in a thousand and one forms throughout the country.

Thus the mainstream of civic political life today is full of ferment movement and incipient upheavals. And to do effective work within the mainstream today the Left must learn to deal with the key coalition questions of platforms (issues) and political forms in a fresh and concrete way, in a fashion which will broadly correspond to, yet advance, the thinking of the masses.

In particular, in relation to the issues, the Left must learn to recognize and appraise properly the specific mainstream forms in which the basic questions of peace, security and democratic rights arise in civic life and to join most vigorously in movements around these issues.

This means concretely active participation in the struggle for a genuine people's good government program against the gangster-Big Business conspiracies. It means a struggle for better housing, schools and health facilities as against reaction's drive to sacrifice peoples' needs to the alleged needs of "defense" against a non-existent "threat of aggression." It means a struggle against police brutality and discrimination against the Negro people and other minorities. It means a struggle against utility rate increases, rent gouging and sales and other tax burdens upon labor and the people.

It is in such burning civic issues as these that the basic demands for peace and democratic rights take concrete local forms throughout the country. And it is precisely around movements on these issues that the broadest electoral coalitions are arising.

Those who refuse to recognize the struggle against war and fascism in its concrete civic forms will fail to influence the mainstream, fail to advance the struggle. Such are the sectarians who stand aloof from the mainstream and insist upon abstract "full peace" programs as "preconditions" for municipal coalitions. Such, too, are the opportunists who lose themselves in the mainstream and wind up denying that

municipal elections "have anything to do with" the struggle for peace and democratic rights.

At the same time, in the fuller unfolding of the pro-peace and pro-democratic implications of the civic struggles as well as in the simultaneous placing in civic life of the central questions of the struggle for peaceful negotiations and a truce in Korea, the advanced peace centers and peace forces will find their special vital and indispensable role.

**THE MAINSTREAM** political forms and arenas—in which the decisive movements on issues reach political expression—vary of course from city to city. But the mass revolt against the machine leaves its imprint on every local situation.

Pro-war Big Business, as in New York City today, is seeking to exploit this revolt and by donning the mantle of "good government," "reform" and "non-partisanship" sneak over reactionary anti-labor candidacies. To expose these tricks the Left must help the masses in each city assume leadership themselves in the fight for good government and assure that such movements will not be taken over by reaction and made into vehicles for new attacks upon labor and the people.

The so-called non-partisan elections, provided for in many cities are often simply a front through which reaction disguises on a local scale what it reveals more openly on a national scale. For instance, leading pro-war Eisenhower and Taft Republicans present themselves in New Jersey communities as "non-partisan" "good government" candidates. Advanced forces, basing themselves upon the main issues (and distinguishing between leading Big Business spokesmen and sincere, if misguided good government forces) need to expose these "non-partisan" reactionaries and themselves help the people turn to good account some of the added coalition possibilities that the non-partisan electoral form creates.

In the party or partisan form of municipal elections, reaction, of course, operates openly through its preferred party, the Republican Party (and the Dixiecrats in the South). But in many key industrial areas in the north where the Democratic Party has a commanding local position reaction operates for local purposes mainly within the machines of that party or, as in New York State, through a kind of city-state bi-partisan Farley-Democrat Dewey-Republican alliance of machines.

To defeat the many maneuvers and to realize the great potential for progress in the popular anti-machine revolt the Left must

(Continued on Page 14)



# Rosenbergs Convicted by Deceit, High Court Is Told

THE GOVERNMENT knew that its witnesses were lying in the Rosenberg case, the Rosenberg defense counsel charged in a hard-hitting petition to the U. S. Supreme Court asking a new trial. In its plea to save the lives of the framed spy-scare victims, the defense counsel says that the conviction and death sentence were "procured by the knowing and deliberate false testimony by their prosecutor."

The petition also hits at the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals which, while admitting that the Rosenberg trial was a mockery because of the "reprehensible" tactics of U. S. Prosecutor Irving Saypol, nevertheless refused to set aside the death sentence and order a new trial.

THE DEFENSE attacks this as follows:

"The court uniquely confines two people to their death despite its own confirmation of the corruption of the verdict upon which the conviction rests."

The fraud and perjury which the defense charges in its petition consist of the following:

1. The testimony of key government witness David Greenglass was perjured. His claim that he could draw an "atom bomb secret" in two hours, and then reproduce it six years later in the courtroom from memory, is a perjured claim.

The defense notes that there is no evidence or other witness to confirm this cruel testimony which has sent Ethel and Julius Rosenberg to the death cells at Sing Sing prison.

2. The admitted perjury by the FBI-procured witness, Schneider who lied on the witness stand when asked if he had ever seen the Rosenbergs between his alleged photographing of them and the day he was identifying them in court. An FBI affidavit admitted later that Schneider had testified falsely.

THE DEFENSE noted that prosecutor Saypol had filled the press with propaganda that he would procure key witnesses to corroborate his key witness' story about the Rosenbergs, but had never produced such witnesses. This prosecution propaganda in the press played a big part in securing the conviction, the petition points out in a lengthy appendix in which the enormous press attacks on the Rosenbergs during the trial are analyzed.

The defense petition insists that the testimony of David Greenglass is sheer perjury. It was manufactured, many observers have asserted, to provide the FBI with a conviction of "communists" as "spies."

Leading atomic scientists like Dr. Urey and Einstein have stated flatly that they think the Rosenberg's denial of the Greenglass yarn "more believable" than his FBI-sponsored tale. Atomic scientist Dr. Ralph E. Lapp stated on March 2 that the so-called "secret" Greenglass drew in the courtroom "could not be written on a piece of paper or on a ton of paper."

The government has 25 days in which to reply to the new petition of the defense.

## School Lunch Program Slashed

FIRST MAJOR slashes in social programs came last week in the Agricultural Department. They affected school lunches, rural electrification, farm housing and aid to farm tenants to become owners, flood control, conserving the soil and other agricultural resources.

Total cuts amounted to \$130,000,000. The school lunch program was slashed by over \$8,000,000; rural electrification by \$40,000,000 and rural telephones by \$15,000,000; flood control by over \$8,000,000; farm homes and aid to tenants by \$5,000,000; and conservation by \$40,000,000.

## FBI Dug in Gutter for Nelson Trial Stoolies

By ART SHIELDS

PITTSBURGH

THIS IS "Free Steve Nelson" month. And the Civil Rights Congress' fight to free the brave Pittsburgh workers' leader will be waged on many fronts in coming weeks.

In Pittsburgh CRC workers will distribute "Free Nelson" leaflets at the mill gates.

In Philadelphia the legal fight to cancel the barbarous 20-year "sedition" sentence comes to a climax on April 13. On that date CRC lawyers will present formal arguments before the State Supreme Court for the reversal of the verdict obtained when Nelson was rushed to trial without counsel.

And in many cities "Free Nelson" meetings will demand the liberation of America's most persecuted thought control prisoner. Nelson himself will speak at some of these meetings.

Meanwhile Nelson is being tried in Pittsburgh under the Federal Smith Act. His co-defendants are Ben Careathers, William Albertson, Irving Weissman and Jim Dolson.

THE GOVERNMENT dug in the dirt to get its witnesses in this trial. Three of the first five stoolies to appear have records in the criminal courts.

The Government apparently held these records over their heads.

Pittsburgh court records show, for instance, that Joseph D. Mazzei, a former steel company guard, who testified last week, was found guilty of adultery and bastardy recently. Mazzei, a married man, escaped prison. But he is paying eight dollars a week for the support of his illegitimate child by court order.

Mazzei is a typical Smith Act finger man, who gets \$10 a week as an FBI informer. He testified that Dolson gave him Marxist literature after he entered the Communist Party. And he says that Ben Careathers, Negro leader, once told him that the Negro people should have the right to control the Government in the Southern Black Belt.

Mazzei owns a movie theatre in the Millvale section of Pittsburgh. He obtained it mysteriously a



STEVE NELSON  
On Trial

short time ago. It didn't cost him a cent, he asserted, but he wouldn't say who gave it to him.

The FBI had plenty on Dewey C. Price, a West Virginia labor spy, who testified against Irving Weissman.

CHARLESTON court records show that Price was sentenced to prison for three years in the early 1930s for violating the National Prohibition Law. He didn't go to the penitentiary, however, but was placed on probation. He had a good friend, an Army Intelligence colonel, who asked him to join the Communist Party later.

Four convictions for drunkenness are also on the court records.

Price denied under oath that he had ever been convicted of a criminal act. That was before he broke down and confessed under Defense Attorney Ralph Powe's cross examination. The FBI doesn't punish its own witnesses for perjury, however.

The witness' labor record is repulsive.

"Yes, I was a scab," he admitted to Powe, who asked him if he had not worked in the duPont chemical plant during the 1947 strike. "I was a scab," he repeated. "When a man works in a strike they call it a scab."

The strike was called by District 50 of the United Mine Worker.

PRICE is also anti-Negro. He told the courtroom that he believed the Negro people were under a curse that compelled them to be "servants" of other men. He talked like a Ku Klux Kleagle, while denying Klan membership.

Price's main job in the courtroom was to link Weissman—former West Virginia Communist leader—with Nelson and the other defendants. He said Weissman told him that he had visited Pittsburgh. He also invented a conversation with Weissman about possible "sabotage" of plants.

Another witness with a record in the criminal courts was the labor spy, Matt Cvetic. His midnight assault on his sister-in-law, when he broke her wrist, has been reported here before.

Cvetic identified Marxist literature and talked about Marxist classes. He fingered all defendants except Weissman.

Mrs. Mary Mazzei, Joseph's wife, and John Lautner testified last week.

## THE WEEK IN CIVIL LIBERTIES

### Columbia Fires a Scientist Honor Vltimized Teachers

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S President Grayson Kirk spoke about the need for keeping ideas free in our schools, but this did not prevent the university from dismissing noted woman scientist, Dr. Gene Weltfish, anthropologist, for her opinions.

The university said she would not be rehired at the end of the academic year. It said that there was nothing political in the dismissal. But the press made no secret of the fact that Dr. Weltfish's views and her refusal to bow the knee to the McCarran's "internal security committee" which lay at the bottom of the case. Especially hateful to the McCarthy-McCarranites were Dr. Weltfish's writings against racism (her book, "The Races of Man" was used by the U. S. Army during World War II), and her outspoken support of peace.

FORTY-FIVE school teachers who had been dismissed by McCarthyite witchhunters for their refusal to surrender their constitutional rights, were guests of honor at a Teachers Union conference with 2,000 present. The conference was one of the most enthusiastic in recent years, as the country's resistance to McCarthyite totalitarianism was clearly on the upgrade. TU legislative representative, Rose Russell, presented the union's annual award to Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn, former president of Amherst College, for his brave stand for academic freedom.

DASHIELL HAMMETT, author of the world-famous books about the Thin Man and other whodunits, would not let the McCarthyites rob him of his rights as an American. The lean, grey-haired writer was hailed before McCarthy who tried to make a scandal of the fact that Hammett's widely read novels were also in the libraries of the

State Department. Hammett, who spent six months in jail for "contempt" of court as a bail fund trustee calmly told the witchhunters that his political views were his own and protected by the Constitution.

To Wisconsin fascist McCarthy, who asked him if Hammett would not approve of probing books "to protect people from communism," the anti-fascist author snapped back: "To do that, Senator I would not give them any books at all."

TOP UNIVERSITY officials, in the so-called "Association of American Universities," tried to appease McCarthyism on the one hand and take into account the angry anti-McCarthy rebellion on the other. In a lengthy report, the college presidents, closely associated with wealthy boards of trustees, echoed the McCarthy line on "communist teachers" and on courageous educators who refuse to "cooperate" with the Jenner-Velde-McCarran committees. They said such teachers should not be employed. Then they said that the schools themselves would do the job of witchhunting better.

This point of view had been vigorously challenged the day before by the Association of University Professors meeting at Chicago. This group, speaking for 43,000 faculty members in nearly 1,000 colleges, assailed loyalty oaths and investigation of schools or teachers. Fitness to teach should not be based on membership in "unpopular organizations" the conference said, but solely on fitness.

They also said that invoking the Fifth Amendment as protection from the witchhunters or FBI stoolpigeons and perjurers is not cause for dismissal though they did not generally recommend this use of the amendment.

## THE WEEK IN NEGRO AFFAIRS

### KKK Probed, but No Indictment Students Rip Segregation

A FLORIDA GRAND JURY took 28 days of hearings to discover that the Ku Klux Klan was "intolerant," "bigoted," "perverted," "sadistic and brutal," but found not one Klansman guilty of a single act of violence.

The grand jury told us nothing we didn't already know, commented the Pittsburgh Courier, "but as to the perpetrators of those outrages (bomb-assassination of Mr. and Mrs. Harry T. Moore and 18 other bombings) we still know nothing."

The jury admitted knowing that the Klan had expressed violent designs against the Moores, had studied a floor plan of the Moore home, and had kept a clipping record of Moore's activity as state head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. But there was no conspiracy indictments against scores of publicly known Klansmen.

COLLEGE STUDENTS throughout the U. S. voted 75 percent against segregation in higher education institutions. Southern students voted 53 percent against segregation; 35 percent for, and 12 percent holding no opinion. The study was published in Mississippi's Milsap College student newspaper, whose editor, Eddie Gosard, promised to poll his fellow students on the issue "if such a poll is not forbidden."

MRS. RUBY McCOLLUM, Negro mother sentenced to death for killing a white live oak, Florida, doctor-political

leader, C. Leroy Adams, last August, received another blow last week when a judge granted a claim of \$85,000 against the doomed woman to Mrs. Florrie Adams, wife of the deceased. Payment of the claim will leave Mrs. McCollum penniless. Meanwhile, attorneys are pressing to save their client from the electric chair. Mrs. McCollum inherited \$135,000 from her husband, Samuel, who died from a heart attack the day after Dr. Adams was killed.

A CONNECTICUT COLLEGE FRONT has been formed against passage of a bill to ban discrimination in college admissions, scholarships and general school affairs. The front includes Yale, Trinity College, Wesleyan University and the Connecticut College for Women. In a statement issued to the press and to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature, the schools claim that there is no "existing evil which requires legislation."

SHORTS AND PERSONALITIES: A report of the Columbia University Conservation of Human Resources Project accused southern states of "educating the whites off the backs of colored people. . . . An all-white jury in Mobile, Alabama, freed Henry Lee Brown, an 18-year-old Negro charged with murdering a white woman, when the youth testified to having been beaten for three days by cops demanding that he 'confess.' It took the jury four hours and two minutes to reach the verdict."



JOSEPH D. MAZZEI  
FBI Stoolie



## On the Way

### Sleepingcar Porters Look At Wisconsin Witchhunter

By ABNER W. BERRY

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, president of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and one of the most hard-bitten anti-Communists, is properly alarmed over the threat of McCarthyism. In the March 15, 1953, issue of the BSCP's official organ, *The Black Worker*, of which Randolph is editor-in-chief, there is a two-page center spread editorial warning of the pro-fascist political trend which bears the name of the Wisconsin Senator.

"McCarthyism," the editorial declares, "is . . . a symptom of Fascism. Its methods and tactics negate democracy. . . ."

Randolph, who either wrote, or very strongly influenced the writing of the editorial, was himself a socialist and a radical at one time. He even expressed sympathy with the Soviet Union and opposed imperialist wars. So, according to the tenets of Jumping Joe McCarthy, Randolph is suspect.

Randolph is also a Negro who leads an international union the membership of which is overwhelmingly Negro. So on many issues, Randolph, as do most of the American people, finds himself in McCarthy's path. The editorial expresses an awareness of this situation when it accuses:

"Sen. Joseph McCarthy would silence all Americans whom he considers not in step with McCarthyism."

"McCarthyism, with a frenzy, fury and fanaticism worthy only of the lowest order of tribalism, would howl down all protests; all criticisms; all dissent; all popular ideas; all independent thought; all political differences."

GEORGE WASHINGTON, THOMAS JEFFERSON, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and the early American socialists; the editorial points out, were victims of "sin-

ister waves of reaction." The paper argues for the return to the Jeffersonian concept of free speech, contained in Jefferson's inaugural address:

"If there be any among us who wish to dissolve this Union, or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed, as monuments to the safety with which error of opinion is tolerated where reason is left free to combat it."

BUT THE EFFECTS OF THIS CLEAR WARNING, rooted in the American democratic tradition now being attacked by McCarthy, is vitiated and almost nullified by the editor's pre-occupation with non-existent "Communist threats." The editorial agrees with McCarthy that "The chief threat and danger from without is the drive of Red Russia for world domination. The minor dangers are the revival of Nazism in Germany and Fascism in Italy."

Moreover, after branding McCarthyism as being "a symptom of fascism," the editorial in its eleventh sentence helps build the very hysteria it is warning its readers against.

"COMMUNIST THREATS AND DANGERS," it states (and McCarthy would agree), "take the form of infiltration and subversion of trade unions, secondary schools, colleges and universities; professional, religious and athletic movements; students, teachers and women's groups; political and civic associations."

Now in the face of the facts, this is not only untrue but it manifestly is not a good way to fight McCarthyism. For in using this tactic of balancing Communism and fascism, McCarthyism will be fed. For what is fascism but the most extreme expression of racism, and labor-baiting, which historically camouflages itself under slogans of anti-Communism?

Negro and Jewish leaders have sensed this for a long time. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on whose board Randolph sits, and the American Jewish Congress called attention in 1951 to the racist danger of McCarthyism in their jointly-published booklet, *Civil Rights in the United States*:

"... The excesses of many of the loyalty investigations and the unreasonable character of much of the federal and state security legislation have intensified the tendency to identify support of unpopular or con-

travertal causes with subversion. . . . Opposition to segregation or discrimination has too frequently been cited as an indication of disloyalty or unreliability."

More recently, Dr. R. B. Atwood, Negro educator and president of Kentucky State College, in opposing the McCarthy-Velde-Jenner investigations of "Communist infiltration" in schools and colleges, told the Louisville Courier-Journal (3/6/53):

"As members of a minority group, we're concerned with the freedom to criticize."

Dr. Atwood was disturbed, according to the Courier-Journal reporter, at the idea of school investigations, because, in his experience, "Communists have been identified with the Negro's efforts to end discrimination."

The Negro educator said he had attended Washington sessions of the McCarthyites and heard victims confronted with the frequently-asked question: "What are your relations with Negroes?"

AND AS A LEADER OF NEGRO WORKERS, Randolph should read what the Senate Subcommittee on Labor and Labor Management, with the "liberal" Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), as chairman, reported this year, after investigating "Communism" in the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union:

"The Marine Cooks and Stewards Union has gained a tremendous advantage from its espousal of equal job treatment for all races. This has naturally made an impression upon the many Negroes in the stewards' department. This is, however, another example of Communist perversion as a laudable principle. The seafaring unions of the Pacific Coast have at times followed a different course."

This is from a "liberal" Senatorial committee among whose members were Sens. Irving Ives (R-NY), Paul Douglas (D-Ill), Wayne Morse (R-Ore) and Matthew M. Neely (D-WVa).

It is to be hoped that the BSCP paper, in the light of these pertinent facts, will amend its welcomed recognition of the McCarthyism danger, stepping in line with those who see the need of a united fight for the real American traditions. For it would seem that Negro labor leaders, and Negro leaders generally, have a special right and a special duty to stand up to these men who seek to destroy democracy with racism, red-baiting and war.



## It'll Be a Parade for Peace

Plans far advanced, permit granted for N.Y. May Day parade

WITH less than a month left before the International working people's holiday, preparations are well under way for New York's annual May Day parade. The Police Department has already granted the Provisional Committee for May Day a parade permit and the singing ranks of workers, housewives, students, etc., will swing down Eighth Ave. in the annual outpouring of New Yorkers.

Rank and file groups through-

out the city have formed their own May Day committees to organize contingents and prepare posters, banners, etc.

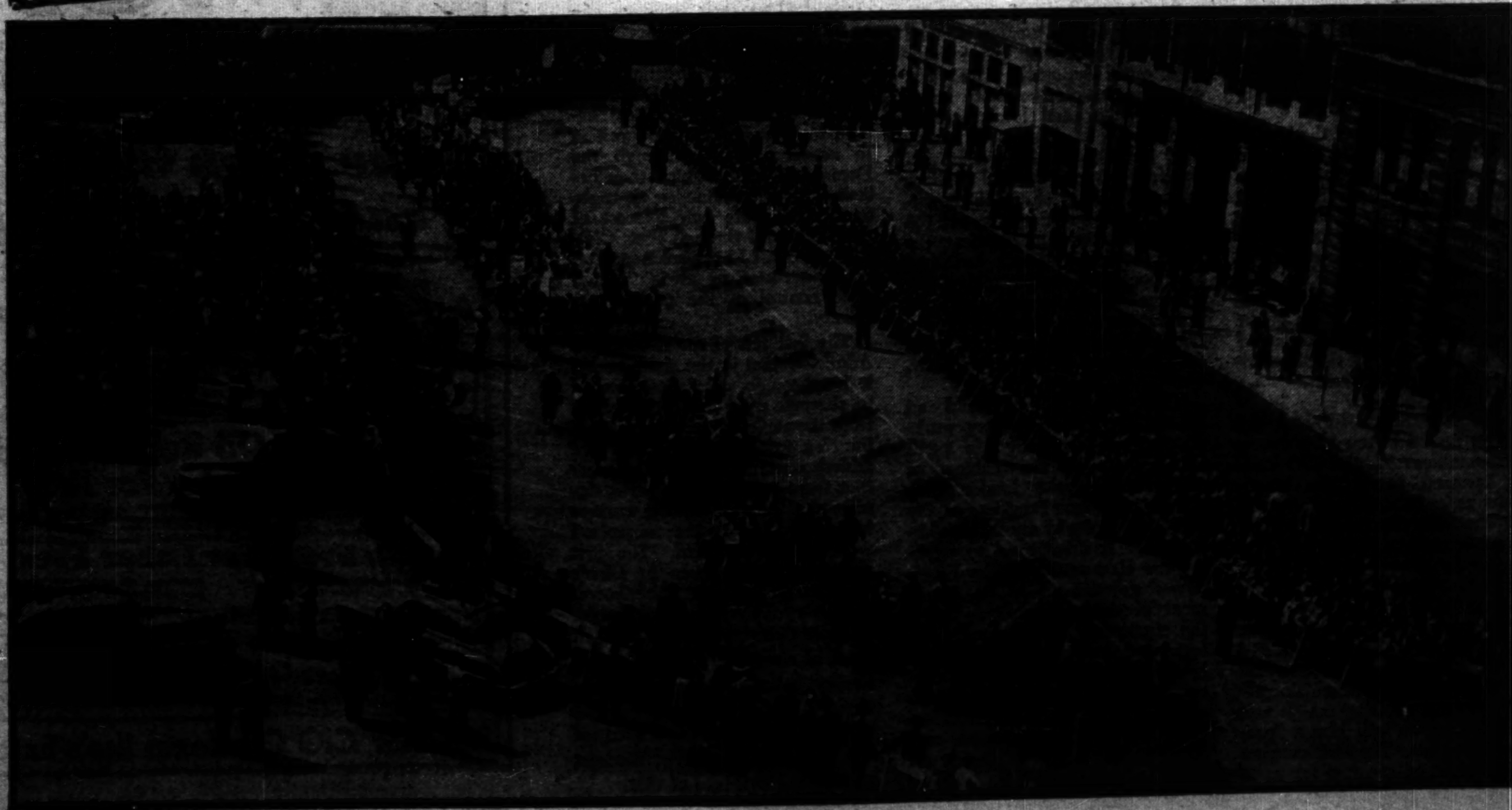
Already, blue and white May Day buttons are appearing on the lapels of workers in the garment area, along the waterfront, and in other industrial centers.

While the actual slogans have not yet been announced, the Committee said that the central theme of the parade will be peace.

Various other workers demands, including restoration of rent control, price cuts, maintenance of the 10-cent fare, wide wage increases, preservation of the city's child care centers, etc., will be reflected in signs and banners now being prepared.

Information about specific contingents and plans can be obtained from the Provisional Committee for May Day, 80 E. 11th St., Room 535, or GRamercy 5-6555.

Marchers entering Union Square during New York's May Day parade last year.





# A Report on Recent Trends in La Since Eisenhower Took

By GEORGE MORRIS

LAST November's election opened the door for some important changes in the ranks of the labor movement. Trends since the Eisenhower Administration took office have already given some indication that the shift, after 20 years, to a Republican regime is having an important effect on the relation of the labor movement to the govern-

ment and the attitude of the workers to the government's policies. Dissatisfaction in the labor movement, mostly pent up under the old regime, is expressing itself more openly under the new conditions.

Below, and in next Sunday's paper, we give a report of the trends indicated so far, and what they portend for the progressives in the trade unions:

## 1. Eisenhower Names Cabinet of Millionaires

"WHAT'S GOOD for General Motors is good for the country."

Those words of former General Motors President Charles E. Wilson before the Senate Armed Services Committee in January, when his qualifications for the post of Secretary of Defense were examined, expressed the real perspective of the Eisenhower Administration. In due time he was approved for the key Cabinet post and with him was approved the entire lineup of Eisenhower's big business appointees for almost every post filled since the new administration took office.

Political power in Washington has been dominated by big business for many years, but never was the all-business character of the government so open and crass. There doesn't appear to be even a pretense to make the government look like a representative of the people. Its executive organs look more like boards of directors of the big monopolies and banks.

And, as you look at the list, you are also impressed by the heavy representation given the companies that enjoy the bulk of the orders for military supplies. Wilson's company tops the list with \$5,490,000,000 in orders.

THE EISENHOWER appointments were the first shock to the labor movement since the election. It gave unmistakable indication where the new administration was heading, and quickly shattered some illusions that the top leaders of labor sought to encourage among the workers.

In the eyes of the workers, particularly to the 16,000,000 unionists, an estimated 70 percent of whom voted against Eisenhower, the "Cabinet of Millionaires" was confirmation of the long-established view among them, that the Republican Party is the open party of big business.

The strongest appeal the Democrats had among the workers in the Presidential election was to remind them of "Hooverism"—that the GOP is a party of depression, anti-unionism and Toryism in all fields of life. Eisenhower's suggestions in some speeches that social security can be obtained in a prison and that workers ought to be satisfied with a hot dogs and beer diet, reinforced that conviction among the workers.

BUT NO SOONER had the election results begun to come in than some top AFL and CIO leaders hastened to picture Eisenhower as a "liberal" and offered him the full cooperation of the labor movement. During the first few weeks after the election an extraordinary effort was made by AFL and CIO leaders to reappraise Eisenhower. His election speeches were reread. Every vague electioneering expression that could be given a "liberal" interpretation was dug up. It was put together to look like a "pro-labor" program. The CIO convention's resolution went so far as to

say:

"We must be prepared also to support recommendations that may be sent to Congress by the new President in the fulfillment of his campaign pledges to preserve and extend the gains of the last 20 years."

IT WAS quite evident that the top leaders of labor thought they could establish the same "friendship" with the White House under the new conditions that they had under Truman. They were apparently hopeful that their basic agreement with Eisenhower on foreign policy would help them extend a bridge to the administration. A review of the labor papers of the period showed that the labor leaders were trying to make the workers believe that nothing very serious or disturbing had happened on Nov. 4—that they could place confidence in Eisenhower. George Meany even hastened to disassociate the AFL from the Democratic Party and the role of "loyal opposition" on the ground that the AFL is "non-partisan" and is not in opposition.

General Eisenhower was not adverse to encouraging such illusions. He gave a "let-by-gones-be-by-gones" impression in his first meetings with top AFL and CIO leaders. The appointment of Martin Durkin, head of the plumbers' union, as Secretary of Labor, one of his early appointments, also helped sow the illusion of Eisenhower "liberalism."

BUT WHILE an overnight changeover was easy for some of the top leaders, there was hardly any evidence of such switch of opinion among the rank and file of unionism. The workers seemed to have taken the campaign warnings quite seriously. The most common post-election story heard in the shops and locals was of anxiety of a depression, worry over the fate of the unions and the fear of losing social welfare laws. The only effect of the attempted maneuver of some of the top leaders was to disorient the labor movement, cause hesitancy and confusion in its ranks, discourage vigilance, and delay or prevent the much-needed mobilization and unity of forces to meet the threatened attack upon labor.

THE EFFORT to build an Eisenhower illusion among workers was cut short by life itself. The makeup of the "cabinet of millionaires" spoke louder than anything the new President or any labor leader could say of his "liberalism." It dramatized to workers the class-nature of the Eisenhower government—as an instrument of the monopolies. Under the circumstances it became hard for labor leaders to sell Eisenhower "liberalism" to the workers. Soon many of the labor leaders themselves were forced to express their disappointment and echo the sentiments of their rank and file.

Before long the labor press reflected the sentiment of the unionists with a flood of cartoons, editorials and stories on the "cabinet of millionaires." The effort to name Wilson to the Cabinet without regard for the law barring appointments of persons who may have a private interest that could conflict with the government's, caused a scandal. Wilson was forced to unload his General Motors stock to make the appointment "look good," although he stoutly maintained that "what's good for General Motors is good for the country."

EISENHOWER barely settled down in the White House when the labor leaders and the country learned that it would not be as easy, if at all possible, to sell the new administration to the workers and the Negro people as it was to get popular support for so-called "friendly" Democratic administrations. It became evident that the popular illusions built up among the workers and Negro people for the Democrats, due mainly to Roosevelt, could not be channeled to the traditionally hated GOP. The workers and their allies could not be turned on and off like water or steam through a plumbing system.

The general mood evident among the workers, is not to jump on the bandwagon of the party in power. It has been apparent for some time, especially since Truman took office, that the confidence of the workers and Negro people was declining in the Democratic Party. This was due to the developing war policy of the Truman Administration, its reactionary trend especially with its inauguration of the thought-control drive and persecution of non-conformists, appeasement of the Southerners on civil rights, the absence of new progress in social legislation and such drastic steps against labor as those taken against railroad strikers.

BUT IN sharp contrast to the "pendulum" experience of pre-Roosevelt days, the workers—now a more unified and independent force of 16,000,000—refused to swing to the other party of capitalism because that party is well established in their mind as one of extreme reaction. They don't see that party as an alternative. In the absence of direction from their leaders for a REAL alternative of independent political action, they channel their opposition to reaction mainly through the Democratic Party which they believe they can influence as registered Democrats (which most of them are) and through their CIO-PAC or AFL-LLPE machinery, and in some states or areas through some control of the party's machinery.

The first acts of the Eisenhower Administration in the short period it has been in office have served to sharpen antagonism towards it from the ranks of the workers and the Negro people. Those acts give added confirmation to the view that there is no outlook for a significant GOP base among workers in general and the organized workers in particular. The first popular reaction even in labor's officialdom to the Eisenhower regime strongly affirm our earlier estimate that the basis for a united front of struggle against the reactionary policies of the administration will widen greatly in the coming period. The convention of the United Automobile Workers gave strong evidence of that.

## 2. The "Friendly" Administration Illusion Fades

THE "cabinet of millionaires" only presented the face of the new Republican Administration. But the workers and people generally soon began to form their opinions of the new regime on the basis of its deeds. Among these were:

- Short shrift by Congress to the move to amend the rules so as to make possible even a vote on a Fair Employment Practices bill.

- Eisenhower's inaugural message in which he called for steps to extend—not end—the war in Asia.

- The Dulles-Stassen trip to Europe in which he waved the big stick of Wall Street to press its allies to get more quickly into line for war preparations.

- Omission from the inaugural message of any proposals for housing, FEP, social security expansion, minimum wage increase or any of the alleged promises he was supposed to have made.

- No recommendation by the President in line with his alleged promises to "improve" the Taft-Hartley Law.

- Scrapping of price controls by a Presidential edict before even expiration of the law, and despite the AFL's protests.

- Assurance by Eisenhower to the American Medical Association that he will not give the slightest consideration to the federal health plan for which the AFL and CIO are campaigning.

- An announcement that the election promise to cut income taxes will not be made good this year.

- Moves to quickly scrap rent controls along with the naming of

Albert M. Cole as head of housing evidently because he was most distinguished by his opposition to public housing construction.

- Undisputed leadership by Senator Robert R. Taft in Congress along with the McCarthy-Jenner-Valde-Dixiecrat forces and increased evidence of a basic agreement of the cabinet with these forces—not a struggle against them as some labor leaders had predicted.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS unfolded within a few weeks. Even much of the top leadership of labor was left no alternative but to express opposition—sometimes in very sharp form—to the administration's line of policy. The AFL's leadership is still soft-spoken in its attitude and still apologizes for the President on most of the issues. But some sections of the AFL, notably its railroad group as expressed through the million-circulated weekly, "Labor," are directing some sharp attacks at the administration on key issues. The CIO seems to have quickly abandoned its tone of "cooperation" and has been particularly critical of the administration, including the President personally. For a number of issues, "CIO News" has been especially sharp-toned against the White House and the GOP majority in Congress.

"CIO News" began with an Inaugural Day reminder—a "Check List on Ike's Promises," listing 10 promise quotations from his election speeches.

THE INFLUENTIAL railroad weekly, "Labor," has followed a similar course since the new ad-

Some Recent Headlines from the CIO

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

\$1.00

Vol. XV WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 3, 1953

## The CIO

**EXCLUSIVE—**

### Blue Book Of Blue Chips Features Ike's Top App

**Check List On Ike's Promises**

**Promise vs. Performance**

There's often a big gap between promise and performance.

**HST's Navy Oil Reserve Order Is No. 1 Headache For Ike**

**A New Front For Labor Foes**

**CIO Urges Ike To Keep Off-Shore Oil For Navy**

**Fortune Expected Corruption To**

**Reuther, CIO Condemn Ike's Extension Of**



# bor Over

administration took office. The paper has been especially sharp in its opposition to the Formosa and other spread-the-war measures; hammered away at the influence of the trusts in the administration, especially on the tidelands oil issue; rapped the all-business make-up of the government; directed continual fire at McCarthyism and the trend "snooping" in American life and warned of an attempt by big business interests to control the country's educational system.

Such criticism of the administration is not yet consistent and not yet very clear, but it is unquestionably the beginning of a trend.

The new trend was most marked in the convention of the UAW-CIO. Not a single government speaker appeared before this largest of unions. Not even a formal wire of greetings was received from the President. The resolutions, quite critical of the Eisenhower administration, urged (in contrast to past pro-war policy) acceptance of Malenkov's proposal for peace negotiations; called for a war on McCarthyism and all thought-control laws; advanced a program for an "independent" political coalition of labor and other forces and appealed for immediate joint action by labor to meet "Wall Street's new challenge."

Such criticism of the administration, it must be borne in mind, comes often from sources that are very reluctant to antagonize the administration—who have sought unsuccessfully to develop "friendly" relations with the new regime. But the leaders of labor are obviously feeling a strong pressure from their own rank and file. Some of them find it necessary to appease the prevailing sentiment shown below.

Moreover, it must not be forgotten that the war-influenced

economic and political pressures that have been causing widespread dissatisfaction among the workers and often militant action, had already been in evidence during the Truman regime. The basic trend of struggle against the effects of the war program had already been under way. But while the demagoguery of the Truman government,

and illusions in it among the workers, and the close support it had of labor's officialdom, helped to minimize those struggles, such factors are not in operation now. A labor movement that isn't tied to an administration—not even officially—is obviously not inclined to overlook the open anti-labor character of that administration.

## 3. Eisenhower's Promises Revealed as Fake

IS THERE any evidence of a new trend in labor affecting the foreign pro-war policy of the Eisenhower Administration? As would be expected, trends are usually most marked among the workers on the issues most apparent to them—principally on economic and social welfare problems. And, as we have seen, such reflection of the sentiment of the workers as we do get in the statements of their leaders and the contents of their journals, is usually blurred and distorted.

But we have, nevertheless, already seen some significant evidence of a trend that may have an important bearing on the peace movement. The first disappointment in Eisenhower to hit the people was his trip to Korea. During the election he led the voters to believe that he would go to Korea to END the war. He came back with a plan to EXTEND the war.

While officially very little of the labor movement was campaigning for a peace policy, because the officialdom backed the Truman-Stevenson line, the general rank and file of the unions, like other sections of common people, have been longing for peace. Trade union voters in big majorities were distrustful of the GOP and Eisenhower on "peace" or any other promises. But hope was strong after the election that perhaps something would come out of this promise.

WHEN Eisenhower returned and the cynical disregard on the peace promise became apparent, trade unionists (especially those who did not vote for him) were quick to call attention to the fake promise. Even some official quarters of labor (stimulated no doubt by partisan considerations) noted that Eisenhower's most talked-about promise came out to nothing.

For example, although the CIO officially opposed all movements to end the Korea war, "CIO News" nevertheless included as point No. 5 Eisenhower's promise to end the war, when it drew up a 10-point "Inaugural Day reminder-check list on Ike's promises."

Similarly the AFL's "News-Reporter" carried a cartoon covering the entire front page in the New Year issue. It showed Eisenhower writing his message to Congress with the AFL's suggesting as the first words "our main job in 1953 is to work for peace."

What Meany or Rutherford mean by the term "peace" may differ from what their members believe it means. The important point is that the pressure for peace can no longer be ignored by the top leaders.

BUT EVEN MORE important than what is said by the leaders of labor is their attitude in practice towards the administration's foreign policy. Both the CIO's and the AFL's top executive bodies were in session at the time the President delivered his message to Congress in which he stated the administration's position to extend the war in China by supporting the puppet Chiang Kai-shek.

Neither the AFL nor the CIO had included among their statements and resolutions even a reference to this position of the administration on foreign policy, although in the past the leaders of both said there is no essential difference between the foreign policy of Eisenhower and Truman. The leaders of the AFL or CIO may still have no serious opposition to the newly-announced policy in

Asia. But the fact that they are reluctant to beat the drums for that policy, as they always did the minute Truman pronounced anything on foreign policy, is something new. They are obviously confused or disoriented on their own position. Even more important, they see it as a difficult line to "sell" to their own members. It is one thing to sell an unpopular position to workers for a regime that had the reputation of being "pro-labor," but it is quite another to do so for a regime that doesn't even pretend to be "friendly" to labor.

THE MOST pronounced and vigorous expression of the developing trend on foreign policy comes from "Labor," a paper of 1,000,000 railroad workers, most of them AFL. "Labor" came out vigorously and angrily against both the Formosa policy which it declares is capitulation to the "China Lobby" and against the Dulles "big stick" policy in Europe. As on other issues, "Labor" refrains from a direct personal attack on Eisenhower, but raps either his advisers or cabinet members. The weekly says in its Feb. 28 issue: "China lobbyists, both on the island of Formosa and in the United States, are carrying out a lavishly financed and carefully planned step-by-step campaign to force Uncle Sam to fight a big war to put Chiang Kai-shek back in power in China."

PICTURING Dulles as one of the "China Lobby" and Chiang's "repudiation" of China's treaties with the Soviet Union as war provoking, "Labor" goes on: "Thus, Chiang now practically declares war on Russia, as part of the China Lobby's plan to force Uncle Sam in that direction. It is a good gamble for Chiang. He has nothing to lose, and a lot to gain if millions of American boys are sent to fight and die for him in China."

The question now is: will the gentlemen on Capitol Hill remember that they were elected to represent the interests of the American people, not to let Chiang and the China Lobby dictate the foreign policy of the United States?

The same issue of "Labor" devotes its editorial to developing the charge that the Eisenhower Administration is using the "psychological war" technique against the American people to "bamboozle" them into a big war in Asia and to repudiate the Yalta and Potsdam Agreements.

Observing that the U. S. got along in the world for a long time by simply setting an inspiring example of increasing political freedom, "Labor" asks:

"Is that time-tried way of 'winning friends and influencing people' no longer good enough? Is it necessary now to put our chief reliance on 'psychological warfare' and 'black propaganda' and the 'Big Lie' techniques? And are those new methods back-firing against our own people?"

In another editorial "Labor" demanded a congressional investigation of "Operation Snack"—the show battle arranged in Korea for the benefit of newsmen and photographers.

The long foreign policy resolution of the UAW-CIO is still loaded with much anti-Soviet pro-war language inherited from the UAW's Truman-type foreign policy statements. But for the first time the union comes out for negotiations. Malenkov's statement that "there is no disputed or undecided

question that cannot be decided by peaceful means" is quoted. The government is urged to "sit down" with the Soviet leaders and talk "concrete cases" the resolution argues:

"Through long experience organized labor has demonstrated that negotiations at the bargaining table can become a satisfactory alternative for a contest of economic power when both sides prefer peace to war. Negotiation is not appeasement, neither in collective bargaining nor in international relations. Signing a good contract rather than calling a strike is not to sell out, but to advance, the cause of the workers."

"Out of our experience we recognize that there are two kinds of solution for the tension that grips the world today. We know that unless we find a way to talk it out, we shall be forced eventually to shoot it out, with tragic consequences which no man dares to contemplate."

The resolution also raps the current moves to scrap the Yalta and Potsdam Agreements, denounced "reckless military adventurers" who advise an all-out war in Asia and rejects the Formosa policy announced by the Eisenhower Administration and the plan to back Chiang Kai-shek.

Expressions from labor unions bearing an influence on foreign policy took an even more general turn when the congressional "investigators"—McCarthy, Jenner and Velde—swung into action with the opening of Congress. It was when McCarthy's committee turned to "investigating" the Voice of America that the cry went up loud and strong from the official ranks of labor. What aroused the unions

## Conclusions

WHILE NOTING these attacks upon the State Department we should not overlook the parallel effort by both the AFL and CIO leaders to confuse and prevent this trend from developing into a genuine pro-peace movement. They do this by intensified and especially vicious attacks upon the Soviet Union, parroting the attacks of the press upon Malenkov's peace policy statements.

The top labor leaders also seized upon the fake charge of "Soviet anti-Semitism" which they are spreading shamelessly and without the slightest regard for the truth. They see in it a means for sowing hatred of the USSR, and prejudicing their members against the proposals for peace coming from the Soviet Union.

WHAT DOES this all add up to? It will be observed that in no case is the criticism of Washington aimed at the basis of the war policy. Its most far-reaching form, like "Labor's," is to prevent a "big" war. There is no challenge to the policy that brought on Korea. But even what we have seen is of great significance.

most was the readiness of the State Department under Dulles to conform to almost anything McCarthy demanded.

It is hard enough to tolerate an unpopular State Department policy, but to take on the added burden of McCarthyite "domination" of the State Department is more than even the most conservative of the labor leaders can take. Moreover, the protest on McCarthyite dictation to the State Department gave labor leaders an opportunity to reflect to some degree the anti-war sentiments of the unionists without touching on the heart of the issue.

LABOR PAPERS blossomed out with cartoons by the score and editorials critical of Dulles for submitting to the "investigators." The AFL's "News-Reporter" showed Dulles driving a car marked "State Department" with McCarthy, Jenner and Velde the back-seat drivers. The caption asked: "Voice of America?" The Amalgamated Clothing Workers' paper caricatures McCarthy screaming into a mike captioned "The Voice of America." "Justice" of the Ladies Garment Workers has a similar cartoon.

"Who's running the State Department? John Foster Dulles has the title of Secretary of State. But it's Senator Joseph McCarthy who is calling the shots," says "CIO News."

It is naive, of course, to think that Dulles is an innocent lamb in the den of the McCarthys, Jenners and Velde. But CIO leaders, like those of the AFL, would rather point a finger at villain McCarthy than upon the real policy-makers, Eisenhower and Dulles.

First, it is only the beginning of what unquestionably is a trend that will develop and deepen in the months to come.

Secondly, it reflects a much deeper anti-war sentiment in the ranks of trade union membership.

Thirdly, it confirms the view we expressed immediately after the election that the conditions under the new regime will also broaden the basis for a peace movement in the ranks of labor.

Finally, it reflects the existence of a far stronger support for an ACTIVE and more CONSCIOUS peace movement than the organizations in the field have been able to build among workers. The trend of these partial departures from war policy should underscore the fact that only by associating itself with these limited sentiments can the peace movement broaden and help raise the workers to a higher pro-peace consciousness.

[Next week we will take up the development on the wage front, labor unity, civil rights, civil liberties and the conclusions to be drawn by progressives.]

## Recent Headlines from the CIO News

**CIO Says 'Government By Induction' Must Be Ended**

**No Sugar-Coating  
CIO Proposes 7 'Fundamental' Improvements In Taft-Hartley**

**Taft Takes Over Driver's Seat As Hearings Near On T-H Changes**

**Taber Calls In Big Business To Ax Budget**

**'GM Charlie' Confirmed In Defense Post**

**G M Charlie's Cabinet Job Is Delayed**

**Report To Ike Urges U.S. Enforce Bias Ban In Defense Contracts**

**Ike Proposes, But Taft's Congress Disposes**

**GOP Warned Of Rout In 1954 If Farm Price Drop Continues**

*The Low And Charles Wilson*

*Ike's China Order Causes Jitters Among U. S. Allies*



## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

# Urges Mother's Day Peace Campaign

### Only the People Can Change Course To Peace

As an Canadian mother living here in the U. S., I wish to make a suggestion for the promotion of peace. It is simply this, that there should be a nationwide campaign around Mother's Day to bring the cry for peace in all our hearts to such a resounding chorus that the blood-money profiteers will tremble in their dead men's shoes.

I am convinced that it is up to the women in this country to demand peace for their children. In Europe, I understand the main appeal for peace is based on the welfare of the children. Do we care less for our dear ones here?

It should be possible to bring up this suggestion in PTA meetings, women's organizations, veterans groups, in unions, etc. Let us cut through all the hypocrisy of our commercialized Mother's Day and demand the best gift in the world for all mothers everywhere—a Peaceful World where our children can grow up to be real human beings. We should deluge Eisenhower with a flood of such appeals. Only we, the people, can change the course of war to that of peace. And the mothers are the ones with the most feeling and drive to take the lead in the demand for peace.

Sincerely,  
A Canadian-American

### Reader Pays Tribute To Haywood Patterson

Detroit, Mich.

In the issue dedicated to Negro History Week, you wrote praise for the victims of the vicious frameups against a number of our Negro men and women. All of them were indeed very deserving of that tribute, but one man you never mentioned and one case you never touched on was Haywood Patterson and the Scottsboro case.

That was indeed a vicious frameup against nine Negro youth, and the most outstanding individual in that case was Haywood Patterson, who spent 18 years in an Alabama hell-hole and was beaten and mistreated down through the years. But through all of that brutal treatment he never failed to fight back.

He suffered untold agony when he escaped until he got to the end of his journey, and then gave to the masses the great book, *Scottsboro Boy*.

When he received his pardon through Gov. Williams in the State of Michigan, he was told that as long as he stayed in the bounds of the state of Michigan he was free. But what was really meant was as long as he remained silent he was free. Five and a half months later when he defended one of the women of his race from being beaten by the Detroit police he was framed on a murder charge. While collecting for his books he had let out on credit, a bunch of police-organized hoodlums attacked him and he was charged with murder because one of the hoodlums was cut and died. This case was fought through three sessions of court, and then he was given 6 to 15 years for manslaughter.

Haywood Patterson was suffering with a cancer of the stomach. He suffered all the year he sat in the Wayne County Jail, and he was refused



HAYWOOD PATTERSON

a doctor or treatment; this I know for I visited him twice a week and we wrote each other two and three times a week.

He died in Jackson Prison Aug. 22, 1952. He fought always against two classes of citizenship, and against the white supremacist rule, whether in prison or out. He was a grand guy, a sincere person, and I feel sorry that our newspaper did not pay him any tribute on Negro History Week. For I sincerely believe he was deserving of a bit of praise from anyone interested in equality for all.

C. I.

### Says Bible Supports Rosenberg Defense

Michigan

About the Rosenberg case, I hear they have but one witness against them, I read in the Bible, Deut. 19:23, that one witness shall not raise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin that only by the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses shall the matter be established.

P. T.

### People Voted for Liars, Women Says

New York

I am very happy and pleased to read your paper. Thanks to you, because if it was not for your paper we would never know the truth about what is going on in this, our country, and other countries of the whole world.

There is not one of the papers in the U. S. for us, the workers, but yours. The others are liars and are for Wall St. They make propaganda for war and slanders against people who want peace and fight for civil rights calling them traitors etc.

Today when the Polish delegate speaks in the UN and says that the South American countries are ruled by U. S. imperialism, this answer came back. It was that Poland was under the rule of Soviet imperialism. Everything the Soviet delegate says to the UN they answer back and repeat the same lie. That's the new tactic of the U. S. in the UN.

I pray to God to bless you and give you plenty of good health to keep your paper going on. I will always help in all I can to keep it going. I am a poor working woman and my husband works too. We need your paper especially in these days of fascism. We are back in Hooverism days. Decontrol of rent, wages, prices etc. People voted for liars.

Your reader,

N. M.

### Urges Reprinting Worker Articles

Detroit

I am enthusiastic over the improvement in the *Daily Worker* and *The Worker*. Especially am I gratified at the increased space being devoted to analysis of urgent developments and the accompanying programmatic answers. I am glad the paper is shaking off remnants of liberal-bourgeois "objectiveness," and

clearly, in an all-around fashion, exhibiting its peace, working-class, democratic and socialist partisanship. Allow me the following suggestion.

Increasingly, articles are appearing in the *Daily Worker* and *The Worker* of broad popular interest which need to reach the attention of circles far beyond our readership. In this connection, I need cite only the excellent series of articles by Bernard Burton on East-West trade and Charles F. Mann on Negro disfranchisement.

I think a number of our readers would welcome the opportunity to contribute on a permanent basis to the establishment of a small fund to be used to finance the reprinting of such vital articles as penny folders or inexpensive "newsprint" pamphlets. Such a fund could be built by readers "clubbing together" to finance the reprint of a certain article which they consider has a special value for the particular group of people they are working with. A small box reminder to the readers that the paper provides such a service, listing the norms of cost and quantity for such reprints could appear every week.

I think this would also be a big promotional aid in getting subs. As I think other readers will join me, I am enclosing \$5 as a first contribution toward providing our paper with a "reprint public service fund."

Auto-Worker.

### Trip to Europe Is Convincing

New York

Returning from a five-month visit to Europe—France, Switzerland, Italy and Western Germany—I am more than ever convinced, in the forces of peace and progress, and of the future. So here is \$2.50 for a renewal and \$1.50 for a donation.

A. R.

## 'QUOTES FROM THE TRADE UNION NEWSPAPERS'

# Labor Press Raps Eisenhower Policies

### Too Much Secrecy?

Have the American people a right to know about developments which vitally affect them and their pocketbooks? The lid of secrecy is being clamped on tighter and tighter. One example is pointed out by Arthur Krock, conservative political editor of the New York Times, which supported Eisenhower in the election campaign. Now Krock says that during the recent Washington conference between top American and British government officials, President Eisenhower issued "the strictest orders ever given to U. S. negotiators," forbidding them to say a single word to "even the most responsible American reporters." As a result, the only information which "leaked out" favored the British proposals. Labor.

### Importance of Tideland 'Oil for Education' Bills

In the immediate future, the issue of ownership of the submerged coastal oil lands of the U. S. will be decided by Congress. And this time it is very doubtful if there will be a Presidential veto to prevent the greatest grab of the nation's natural resources in history, because both the Republican platform and President Eisenhower are pledged to turn over these oil rich coastal lands to the state. The bills sponsored by Senators Anderson and Hill

would allow the four coastal states 37½ percent of the royalties in their immediate area, but would allot the balance to all the states on the basis of school population. This would give the four states \$1.6 billion in royalties and the other 44 states and the District of Columbia \$6.8 billion. . . . There are very many arguments which could be advanced against giving the coastal oil to the four states. These include conserving that oil for national defense and future industrial use. But since we are faced with a condition and not a theory, the best alternate is to get Congress to pass the Anderson-Bill "oil for education" bills.

St. Louis Labor Tribune.

### Who Booses Labor?

No amount of hero worship in the press will impress a worker who is the victim of a speedup. . . . Evidence of this fact is the recent strike vote at the Chevrolet assembly plant right here in Flint. A worker was manhandled and taken off the job. Other workers voted in overwhelming numbers to strike in protest of this action and other accumulated grievances. Will any number of glorifying stories, radio blurbs or video testimonial convince these workers that industry is the big brother of all those who work for a living?

Flint Weekly Review.

### The End of Price Controls

Having read that the end of price controls would mean lower prices for everybody, we joyfully ventured forth last week in search of bargains. Being once again free Americans, we sauntered up to the nearest drug counter and asked for a brand name aspirin. Imagine our surprise when we discovered that the price was exactly the same as BPCE (Before Price Control

Ended.) We were disdainfully informed that this was because this item was on a "fair trade list." We have now been haunted by this "fair trade list" for over a week; and, we have come to the conclusion, that the proponents of price controls made only one mistake—they should have put everything, including rent, on a fair trade list!

Reading Labor Advocate.

### Mess in Kansas

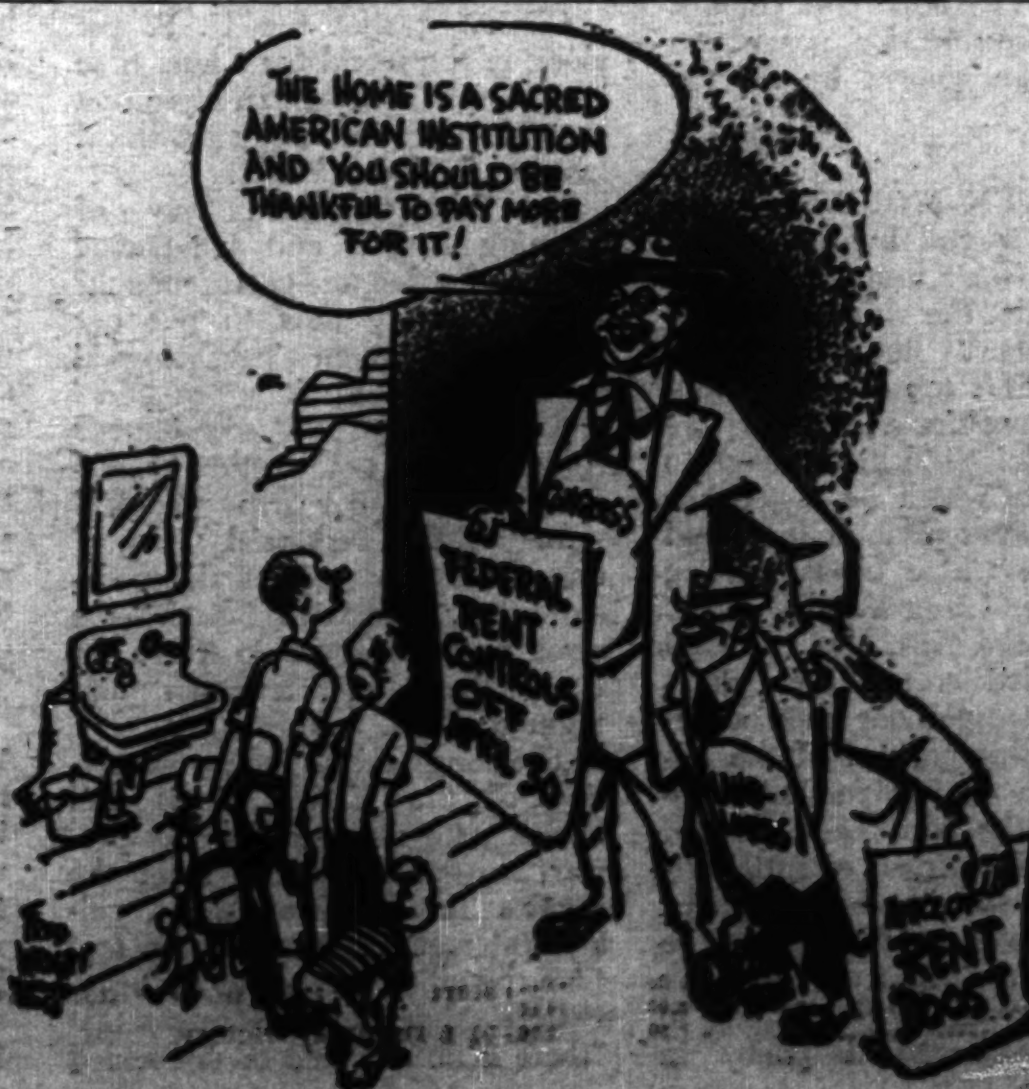
The chairman of the Republican National Committee is accused of getting an \$11,000 fee for persuading the Republican-controlled Kansas legislature to "buy" for \$110,000 a hospital used by an insurance company—even though, in a few years the state, under terms of the original agreement, would have got the hospital for nothing. Looks as though the Republicans, before they can "clean up the mess in Washington" will first have to "clean up the mess in Kansas."

CIO News.

### Questions for Brownell

Last January the Senate Rules Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections transmitted a report regarding Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis) to the Department of Justice, now headed by Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr. The report indicated that McCarthy diverted to his own use money contributed to him for other purposes in apparent violation of federal law. Does the Justice Dept. intend to take action on this matter before the statute of limitations expires? The subcommittee raised the question of whether McCarthy used inside information, obtained as a member of the U. S. Senate, to make money in the soybean market. Is Brownell investigating this?

AFL News-Reporter.





# Indians, Cards Both Rate Threats for the Pennants

**COULD FINISH HIGH AS 1st**  
**COULD FINISH LOW AS 4th**  
**BEST NEW PLAYERS** — 3rd baseman Ray Jablonsky, center-fielder Rip Repulski, 1st baseman-outfielder Grant Dunlap.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** — With loaded, maturing pitching staff, deepest in baseball, Musial in his prime and two of last year's weak spots helped, this team is definitely a flag threat and at worst hard to see anyone but Dodgers and Giants finishing ahead of them.



Greatest Athlete

**SPORT FANS** last week mourned Jim Thorpe, the fabulous all round athlete who died in his Lomita, Calif. trailer home last week at the age of 64. The famed Indian star is generally considered the greatest football back to ever don a uniform. He broke all precedents in the 1912 Olympics at Stockholm, winning both the Decathlon and Pentathlon. His medals were later stricken from him and his name because he had received pay for playing some summer league baseball, to help him through college. This prize AAU hypothesis in the face of the cynical violations of "amateurism" by most colleges, was never rescinded despite popular outrage.

Black, Hoty Wilhelm class last year with 12-2 and Alpha Brazle, southpaw vet who found himself as a reliever with 12-5.

That's a lot of pitching, mates, whether or not you think Miller and can't do it again—something which remains to be seen.

The first base problem would cease if big Steve Bilko came through in his minor league form. Another possibility is Grant Shreveport who isn't too classy. There is the disappointing veteran Dick Sisler. Our own center, Stanky will reluctantly bring Musial in to play first and let (288) round out the outfield with Rip and Slaughter, the amazing 37-year-old who knocked in 101 runs last year.

Essentially however, it's "Musial and those pitchers" who worry the Dodgers and Giants. And that's quite a start toward a pennant fight.

**ALL-STAR GAME** squad candidates—Musial, Schoendienst, Del-Rice, Slaughter, any of five

## HOW'LL THEY FINISH....?

Everybody has his or her own idea on the order of finish this year in the National and American Leagues Sports Editor Lester Rodney makes his annual predictions—with reasons—in next week's issue. Baseball fans won't want to miss this feature.

## The Worker

**PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY BY THE PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS, INC., 35 E. 12th St., New York 3, N. Y. Telephone AL 4-7864. Cable Address: "Dailwork," New York, N. Y.**

**President — Joseph Dorman; Secretary-Treas. — Charles J. Hendley**

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	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
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DAILY WORKER and THE WORKER	3.25	5.50	9.00
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## Indians

**COULD FINISH HIGH AS 1st**  
**COULD FINISH LOW AS 3rd**  
**BEST NEW PLAYERS**—Pitchers Dave Hoskins, Al Aber. Infielder Doug Hansen, outfielders Jim Lemon, Dave Pope.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** — Same team that finished two behind last year obviously has chance to win it all with deeper pitching if Yanks slip just a little. As worst, too much strength to finish lower than 3rd—behind the Yanks and rejuvenated Chicago White Sox.

The Cleveland Indians are the team with the most superb pitching, the most thunderous hitting, and the achilles heel which negates these features just enough to make them a close second to the Yanks. That factor is infield defense, and the specific difference between the Yanks and Indians is the gap between Phil Rizzuto and Ray Boone at shortstop.

IF what they say this spring about a new confident Boone were true—and IF the veteran Rizzuto hits the downhill trail in the slightest as rumors from the Yank camp have it — Cleveland could break away and win big.

This is a team with three 20 game winning pitchers in Mike Garcia, Bob Lemon and Early Wynn. It is a team with all the home run leaders, the rbi leaders, the big punch in Luke Easter, Al Rosen, Larry Doby and to a lesser but very potent degree Dale Mitchell, Harry Simpson, Beto Avila and Boone. No batting order dynamite... and it figures to be even more explosive this year the deified in spring exhibitions. The Giant pitchers think he is going to be the best hitter of all.

Some folks think that with all the boasting about pitching, it was really lack of ENOUGH good pitchers that finally beat the Indians last year, not the infield defense. They point to the deeper Yankee hurling as decisive, and say that the Big Three, with Feller failing, didn't get enough rest over the crucial games.

If this theory is true, the Indians should solve the problem. For they have added Dave Hoskins, the man who broke the Texas League's jimmie policy and pitched Dallas to a flag with 22 wins and 10 losses. After a slow start following an unaccustomed winter's rest he got going and his finely controlled right-handed curves have baffled the Giants. Some have likened him to Tommy Bridges, ex-Tiger ace, in pitching style. Another noteworthy addition is Al Aber, a young southpaw with a sinker ball who figured to make the team before being drafted two years ago.

These two behind the Big Three, plus Bob Feller, Brissie, Gromek and Chakales, should give Al Lopez all the pitching he needs.

Outfield reserves will include the veteran Bob Kennedy, back from the Marines, a potential young right-handed slugger in Jim Lemon, also out of the service, and Dave Pope, a fast left-handed hitter who led the American Association.

The superb catcher, Jim Hegan, still doesn't hit often but can be carried in such a batting order. In spite of their failure for the past two years when they looked best in the league, the Indians still have the rest of the league worried. There is always the fear that start hot and power their way to a runaway victory.

## O'BRIENS VOTE FOR 'LITTLE BALL'



**THOSE SENSATIONAL** little basketball twins, Eddie and Johnny O'Brien of Seattle U. fame, are shown in their Perth Amboy, N. J. home being kiddingly prepared for their big league baseball tryout with Pittsburgh by brother Billy and sister Teresa. The 5-9 phenoms say they've played their last basketball, thanks. The 5-9 fleet footed hard hitting ballplayers rated real prospects... but they may be army bound before the season is over.

## The Worker Sub Drive Lags in New York

**WE ARE** publishing below the standing of the New York State circulation campaign as of Tuesday, March 31.

It is clear, from the figures, that the campaign is in a critical state. After seven weeks of the drive, New Yorkers have come through with only one-third of the Worker goal set and less than half of the Daily Worker goal.

In the very heat of the campaign, upon which The Worker depends to maintain circulation, we have been actually losing subscriptions. Some 7,500 have expired in the past three months. Note from the figures that a total of 4,342 have come in during this same period.

Thus we have lost over 3,000 subscribers at a time when we must gain some 5,000 or 6,000 if we are not to face severe losses by the end of the year.

The slow returns are in startling contrast to the experience of the campaign. All who have been engaging in it insist that current readers renew at once, and that many new readers are being won—where they are gone after. The problem is that so few have taken part so far.

We must state bluntly that the future of The Worker and Daily Worker depend on the success of the campaign. We know the readers can be won if our supporters go after them. We put it up to you to do the job with us. While the campaign is scheduled formally to end April 15, we cannot—and must not—let it end until we have reached the goals set—or at least come close to them.

State	Worker Goal	In So Far	Percent Goal	D.W. Goal	In So Far	Percent Goal
Upstate	600	138	23	300	107	36
Manhattan	3100	914	30	200	119	60
Bronx	2000	786	40	50	21	42
Brooklyn	4000	1281	32	500	266	53
Queens	1400	715	51	300	144	48
Trade Union Comm.	2350	508	22	150	14	10
Total	13,000	4342	33	1500	671	45

## Greet The Worker May Day

This year's May Day issue of The Worker will carry greetings and expressions of support from workers in shops, unions, civic groups and communities throughout the country. We urge every reader to clip the blank below and use it to get fellow-workers, or Worker supporters in their community or organization, to contribute toward a greeting to the May Day edition of The Worker:

Return to The Worker, 35 E. 12 St., New York 3, N. Y.

**COPY** (or message) of greeting to appear in The Worker. (May we suggest greetings to Editor John Gates and Publisher Benjamin J. Davis—and other victims of Smith and McCarran Acts).

NAME or INITIAL

CONTRIBUTION

From (workers in ..... trade union, industry, shop or department; members of ..... organization, residents of ..... City, ..... County, ..... State):

**RATES FOR GREETINGS:**

\$200—Full Page	\$15—Four Inches
100—Half Page	11—Two Inches
50—Quarter Page	5—One Inch
25—Eight Inches	

The Greetings can be either by an individual or a group. It will appear in the May Day issue of The Worker, which will be dated April 26.

**DEADLINE** for Greetings is Thursday, April 16. (Send orders of the special MAY DAY edition can be ordered, up to April 26, at 25 copies for \$15.)



# Woman Today

## A Nobel Prize Winner Asks 'A Children's Hymn to Peace'

By WALTER LOWENFELS

A PRIZE for the best children's "Hymn to Peace" is one of the 'proposals for peace' made recently by Gabriela Mistral, Chilean poet, educator, and Nobel Prize winner in 1945.

Mistral, whose first book of poems was published in New York City, in Spanish, in 1922, was for many years a school teacher in Chile. She has taught at Barnard, Vassar, and Middlebury colleges, and is known in many countries for her work as an educator as well as a writer.

Mistral's "Proposal for Peace," is one of a series by various personalities that the magazine, The Nation, has been publishing. Mistral calls her peace proposals "a few suggestions," but they will undoubtedly be read in many lands as a practical program.

"Peace can be born in the schools. As an old teacher I send you a few suggestions that could be applied in schools everywhere.

"Pictures make a lasting impression on the minds of children under fourteen. Let the teachers collect photographs of the games children play in foreign countries—in North and



South America, in Europe, Africa, and the Far East.

"Have pupils sing the folk songs of other peoples—but not their war songs. A teacher should explain the words and talk about the historical events to which they are related.

"At school fetes let the children dress in the costume of other countries, sing their songs, and play their games.

"Devote one day each month to a foreign country. Tell the pupils stories of its real heroes—its peacetime heroes. The older children should also hear about some of the horrible instances of genocide and enophobia.

"Give a prize for the best 'Hymn to Peace.'"

## A Woman Writes on the A-Bomb Blast

## 'They Weren't Dummies at Nagasaki'

This eloquent column on the recent televised atomic bomb tests is reprinted from the Springfield (Mass.) Union of March 19. The column, entitled "Home Jotting" is by Alice Scott Ross and appears on the Woman's Page of the Union.

By ALICE SCOTT ROSS

DOOMSTOWN. We didn't know that one day doomsday would be manufactured, did we? A button pushed, a detonation released, a blinding glare, a mushrooming growth, compression and virulent dust—death.

Contamination of a dreadful sort spreads and falls from the skies. Not like manna, not like blessings, but with the awfulness of a curse. An answer has been found, not to life but to destruction.

Dummy houses peopled with dummy inhabitants take the blow, they weren't dummies at Nagasaki.

"How did the manikins come through?" asked a television interrogator in the afternoon of doomsday "In the house that we examined," was the answer, "those on the ground floor were grotesque entangled with the venetian blinds and the various room furnishings."

"You wouldn't say that they came out so good, then?" continued the questioner. "No," was the flat answer.

Is it part of a new era, the atomic age, this force which blisters and scars when it does not kill? Is mankind's strength



to be directed from now on not against the elements, not against injustices and vice, but against man's physical vulnerabilities?

THERE ARE all sorts of justifications for what we are doing—our justifications. How will they stand on God's doomsday? How will they stand before Him who taught only love and gentleness and compassion.

Is our choice of reading an indication of this hardened attitude? Again the television gives us a clue. Mickey Spillane was being interviewed by Dave Garraway on the same program which had carried the atomic blast.

"Why do you suppose your books have such a tremendous appeal?" asked Mr. Garraway. "Have people's tastes been geared in the atomic age to demand brutality and violence?"

The tone was light, but the words weren't, neither was the implication, Mr. Spillane, slight

appearing, boyish, observed that he wrote to get money, that he believed people liked to know what prompted violence.

"But what," persisted Mr. Garraway, "makes them buy books by the millions, better than 20 millions to date? Time was running short and the question went unanswered.

THE FRONTSPIECE of Spillane's "I, the Jury," which last October had gone into its 25th printing, lists among the murder suspects: "a beautiful and sexy psychiatrist, a subtle nymphomaniac with a normal twin sister, a cured drug addict and a likable moron who raises bees."

Do more than 20 million satisfy a lust for brutality through these pages, are questionable women enjoyed thus, vicariously? Do teenagers gulp down this fare "for kicks?" Is this part of their indoctrination into the atomic age?

There is concern over the increase in women alcoholics. Missions, it is believed, "must face up to the problem of the needs of the crop of women alcoholics today's society is producing."

We can't shake these things off, you know. We can't dismiss them as crying wolf as long as there is a contrived doomsday, as long as pleasure is gained from brutality, as long as a man, though drunk and demented, can murder a little girl.

May the Lord have mercy on us in our atomic age.

## Unity Against Reaction in the Municipal Elections

(Continued from Page 5)

give their main attention to the broadest electoral forms and arenas through which the main mass of labor, Negro and other democratic forces are prepared today to express their opposition to reaction.

This will in some instances be the Republican primary and party forms as in many urban districts of large Negro population and in some smaller industrial towns. At times the good government struggles may result in independent candidacies outside of the two major parties yet fully representative of the unions and established people's organizations. But at the local level (as of course nationally) the main sections of labor and the people will tend by and large to express themselves through the Democratic primaries and party forms.

For, while the revolt against the machines is a key feature of city life it is characteristic of the present level of this revolt that it does not yet take the form of a mass exodus from the old parties. Rather under present political conditions it takes as a rule the very important form of increased independent political activity within the arenas provided by the two-party system, especially the Democratic Party. (Such independent activity, appealing to the mass of Democratic and independent voters, sometimes takes the form of anti-machine candidacies formally and temporarily outside of the two-party structure as in the election of Halley in New York City.) And the result is further to sharpen the struggles shaping up in the Democratic Party and thus to accelerate the conditions leading to an eventual political realignment led by labor.

LABOR TODAY holds the key to the forging of any successful municipal coalitions against reaction. It is only to the degree

that labor's independent political role within the mainstream of civic life is furthered and strengthened, that the American people will be able to achieve local victories against reaction and its maneuvers.

As matters stand today, in no major city does labor enjoy the influence and hold the offices to which its weight and role in American political life entitle it. Traditionally, labor's role in the municipalities has been confined pretty much to top-level deals with the machines.

This shocking lack of labor representation in city government is the outstanding challenge to which the main labor organizations and especially the left forces within them must address themselves. The rank and file of labor, bearing the brunt of reaction's offensives in the cities, are in a mood to change this situation which their Social-Democratic leaders have so long encouraged. For the progressive forces the struggle for vastly increased labor representation is a key and decisive question.

It is therefore a matter of no little significance that the CIO-PAC this year called upon its 443 local affiliates to take an active part in the '53 municipal campaigns and make them a proving-ground for the 1954 Congressional elections. It is also a welcome sign that AFL-LLPE has called for political activity and fund-collectors this year too instead of waiting for the Congressional year as in the past. In addition, it should particularly be noted that the LLPE has called upon the whole AFL to recognize the key role of women voters and organize special activities to win their support for labor's program in the elections.

Thus the left forces in the right-led unions (as well as in other unions) will find a more favorable atmosphere (although no automatic victories) in the fight to

strengthen labor's independent political role in civic affairs. In particular, it should be possible to help stimulate increased intervention by PAC and LLPE organizations on a broad mass scale.

This intervention is especially needed along the following minimum lines: first, to place labor in an active, leading position in the many-sided fight for a people's program of good government; second, to exert maximum influence from within on the platforms, candidates and campaigns of broad civic electoral coalitions; and third, to secure the election of trade-unionists in greatly increased numbers not only to city councils but also to top city posts.

THE OTHER key urban political force, the Negro people, bear even more directly the main brunt of Big Business-Crime syndicated looting and oppression in the cities. They experience in the sharpest form the basic civic needs for better housing, health and other facilities. They have the least—most often no—representation in city offices.

Thus the struggles for people's good government merge with the struggle for Negro rights and representation. And the city elections present unique opportunities for the Negro people, their main organizations and allies, to achieve many new victories in the fight for increased representation and participation in government.

In their coalition electoral activity the Left needs to take into account and apply some of the lessons in the struggle for Negro representation. Experience shows, for example, that Negro representation movements arise most readily and develop most effectively, first, where they address themselves to a specific office or group of offices—be they elective, appointive or vacancy appointments—rather than to representation in general; second, where, reflecting the all-class character unity of the

Negro Liberation movement, they are based directly upon the leadership and membership of the chief Negro people's organizations, the NAACP, the churches, women's and fraternal groups, together with active Negro trade-unionists; and third, when they present their demands and fight for them in the main electoral arenas, the major parties, and with the active participation of leading Negro Democrats and Republicans, acting in parallel fashion or jointly, as the case may be.

At the same time, the Left forces in the mainstream have a special role to play in advancing on a municipal level on all aspects of the labor-Negro alliance which is the backbone of any effective electoral coalition.

THE BASIC OBJECTIVE of all left-progressives in the 1953 municipal elections is to help the masses of labor, Negro and other democratic voters achieve local victories against pro-war, pro-fascist reaction and thereby lay the basis for administering a major defeat to Big Business in the 1954 Congressional elections.

In carrying out this objective the left must not sit out any campaign. Even where the candidates have already been chosen, primaries held and little time remains for the final elections every effort should be made to influence the character of platforms and the conduct of the campaigns in a direction favorable to meeting the people's most urgent needs.

Within the framework of this over-all tactic, the advanced political action bodies (and advanced political action bodies and advanced electoral parties where they exist) have a vital role to play in influencing the thinking and action of the mainstream. This role is a varied one, depending upon the concrete local situation and needs. But its specific

forms could best be determined by the criterion of what will advance the building of powerful coalitions against reaction.

Advanced electoral parties, as in New York and California, could play a most important role:

1. By putting forward their own independent program on the critical issues of civic life.

2. By helping to bring into existence broad coalitions of labor, Negro and other good government forces. Such coalitions, brought into being on the basis of a common minimum program can achieve significant victories against reaction. All left and progressive forces should be keenly concerned with the advancement of such coalitions for they help to move the democratic forces in the direction of greater independent initiative. And this is true even though advanced progressive forces and parties are at this time as yet not formally included in the coalition.

3. By entering specific candidacies of their own in those situations where such candidacies provide the only effective voice against reaction and do not come in conflict with the mainstream of labor and people's coalitions.

Likewise, Communists, in addition to their activities in the mainstream and their participation in the advanced political bodies, have their own special responsibility as a political party, their own independent task of presenting, in the most effective manner, their own independent thinking on the issues, problems and tactics of the '53 municipal elections. In so doing the Communist Party will strengthen its ties with the masses and make significant contributions to the broad people's coalition against reaction. They will likewise assure an ever growing struggle for peace, for the democratic rights of all Americans and for the full legal existence of the Communist Party.



## Use Ammo Scare for New Anti-Labor Laws

THE RECENT Washington furor about an alleged shortage of ammunition in Korea was exposed last week as a cover for new legislation to be introduced in Congress to further restrict labor's right to strike.

A headline in the Friday, March 27 issue of the New York Journal-American provided the tipoff. The headline read: "37 Percent Cut in Ammunition Blamed on Steel Strike." Accusing Truman of maintaining a "coddle labor" policy during his administration, Congressmen Smith (R-Kan), Van Zandt (R-Pa), and Hoffman (R-Mich) claimed that last year's steel strike, the Scovill Brass strike led by the CIO-UAW and the International Harvester strike led by UE caused serious cuts in ammunition deliveries.

General Van Fleet, who made the claims of "shortages" before the House Armed Services Com-

mittee, said that General Mark Clark and former Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett had attributed the "situation" to the strikes.

Screaming that the Truman Administration had "put the demands of labor leaders ahead of defense needs during World War II and now in Korea," Rep. Van Zandt called for a Congressional investigation and indicated that he would introduce more legislation to cripple labor.

Politically conscious labor leaders all throughout the country are preparing for the next offensives by Big Business—began already in the Taft-Hartley hearings—to do away with the right to strike altogether.

The Van Fleet charges also pointed up the fact that the Korean war is and has always been directly in contradiction with the interests of labor.

### Face Runaway Deal in Kaiser Merger

TOLEDO. — Negotiations for merger between the Willys-Overland Co. and Kaiser-Fraiser were recently held in New York City, attended by representatives of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to which Kaiser is heavily in debt. Representatives of California banking interests are reported interested in the deal.

Ward Canaday, chairman of Willys-Overland, was upset when word of the negotiations leaked out and caused a sensation in Toledo, especially it was reported that the company's facilities might be moved from Toledo to Willow Run.

### Great SPRING LINEN Sale!

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## First Round Tuesday on New York Fare Hike

(Continued from Page 2)

health and safety of every citizen. THESE ARE the issues. The Dewey-Impeller tax plan incorporated in the next billion dollar budget can be defeated. Tenants and labor, civil service workers and consumer, civic groups and progressive political spokesmen, strap-hanger and motorist—the whole city can be joined in a mass offensive against the bipartisan Big

Business squeeze.

The \$170,000,000 which Impeller claims he needs to run the city next year can be obtained through realistic assessments on big commercial and industrial property; a tax on stock transfers, an increase in the State returns to the city of per capita funds under the Moore Formula from the present \$6.75 per person to \$12, a tax boost on state inheritance

charges and an increase in the state corporation and unincorporated business levies, would net the city of per capita funds needed to "balance the budget."

The budget hearings will undoubtedly get these demands from a host of persons representing organizations of every political thought and activity.

From here on every man and woman—and child—who rides the subways and buses, pays rents, uses the city hospitals and health services and attend its schools, should wire, write, phone and visit every member of the Board of Estimate.

DON'T PASS THE DEWEY-IMPELLER TAX PLAN!

## CATCH YOUR CONGRESSMAN ON HIS OWN FRONT PORCH

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# Mike Gold Writes on 'The Devil in Boston'

By MICHAEL GOLD

THE YIDDISH Theatre Ensemble has achieved another shining success with its current production of Lion Feuchtwanger's drama, "The Devil in Boston."

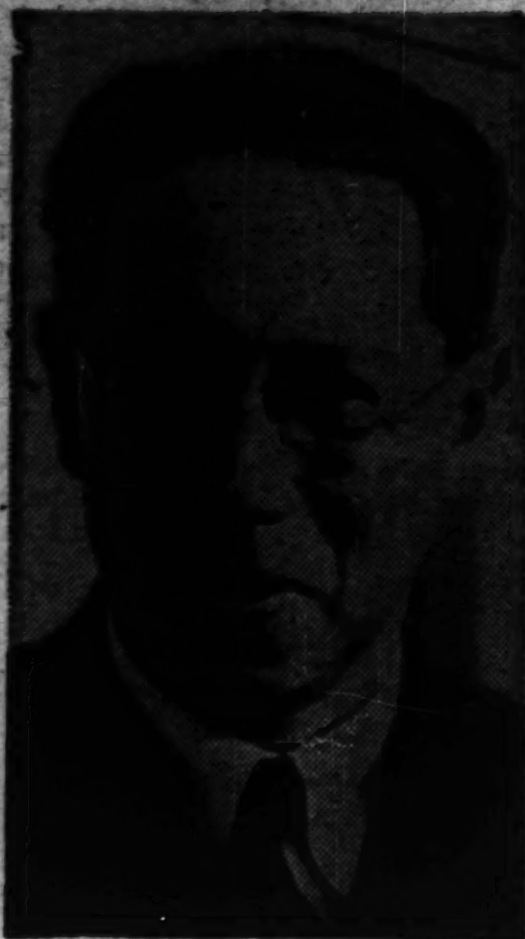
The theme is Salem witchcraft, a timely enough subject in this epoch of McCarthyite persecution. Arthur Miller's play is on the same theme and is a Broadway success in this same theatrical season. The coincidence of two such plays on a similar theme is due, no doubt, to the fact that a great social need always produces such coincidences in the arts and sciences.

Miller's play concentrates mainly on the psychology of individuals caught in the Salem terror. The Feuchtwanger drama is more concerned with the social causes behind the psychological drama. It is interesting to note the different approach of the two authors. What they share in common is a hatred of inquisitors like Cotton Mather and his current incarnation, McCarthy, and the social insanity they invoke.

WHAT Feuchtwanger's play contends is that the witchcraft hysteria was not a mere explosion of community nerves, but a manipulated and manufactured device of a theologian greedy for political power. Cotton Mather, eminent clergyman and Puritan leader, was a scheming politico as well as an authority on the Devil and witchcraft. His father, Increase Mather, was negotiating in London for a new royal charter for the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Under this charter the Mathers would rule as dictators, with complete authority over the religion, politics, ethics and love and trade of New England. A people's party was opposing the godly dictators. Among its leaders was Dr. Thomas Colman, brother-in-law of Cotton Mather, and a man of scientific democratic mind.

Hannah, the young neurotic daughter of an ambitious clergyman, starts throwing fits and brings accusations of witchcraft against various Salemites. Cotton Mather seizes upon the sick girl's charge and inaugurates a reign of a terror in which dozens of people are judged and burned at the stake. Dr. Colman traps the girl and proves her to be a cunning liar and crazy exhibitionist. But half-theologian and half-demagogue Cotton Mather uses her testimonies to further his own autocratic drive for power. Here is a struggle that clearly underlines the struggle of our day.

THE YIDDISH Theatre Ensemble presents the play with



LION FEUCHTWANGER

fervor and intelligence. Morris Carnovsky was the director, and has imparted his sensitivity and clarity to the production. This group of actors are devoted inheritors of the traditions of the famous Artef Theatre, one of the finest we ever had in New York. They are a true ensemble, and with the unselfish giving of one's best to the smallest part, such a collection brings deep veracity and feeling to each production.

It is hard to pick out anyone for praise, because the whole group is worthy of praise. Goldie Russler imparts a serpentine evil to the part of the hysterical young "witness," who swore away the lives of so many innocent men and women of the old Salem. The Eisenbergs give their usual solid and full-orbed strength to important roles they have in the play—Meyer Eisenberg as an impressive Rev. Cotton Mather, and Luba Eisenberg as Goodwife Bridget, a free-spoken washerwoman who falls under the terror.

Hyman Lowenstien plays an earnest Dr. Colman, while Jacob Gostinsky ably acts the role of Judge Samuel Sewall, who had condemned numbers to death on the witchcraft charge, then later is seized by a feeling of terrible guilt for his crimes. Abigail Mather, the wife of Cotton is played by Luba Rymer and Bennes Marden takes the role of his son Richard, both with distinction and understanding. Michael Cebiner depicts a sly, worldly Reverend Parrish, father of the hysterical girl.

## ON STALIN

By T. E.

A giant Oak has fallen in the forest  
All the dwellers there walk quietly  
clothed in their deep respect

A giant Oak with wide-succoring branches  
has been stricken. In the sun and shadow,  
Quiet is the shelter-belt land.

The earth shook with the crash of the falling giant  
(to some it was the end of the race of giants)

But for long-long-generations of acorns  
had scattered with the seasons on the rich earth  
and a far-spreading shelter-belt of young giants  
made their stand—

New and old roots intertwined in steppe-land,  
in city-land, in bottom-land.

A giant Oak has fallen in the forest  
but his fibers are the fuel of our fires  
And his leaves are the timber of our dwelling-places  
And his seed is ours for planting forever.

MORRIS CARNOVSKY

## 'THE MAN FROM MAIN STREET' HATED FASCISM

# A Glance Back at Sinclair Lewis

THE MAN FROM MAIN STREET, Selected Essays and Other Writings by Sinclair Lewis, edited by Harry E. Maule and Melville H. Cane, 371 pp., Random House, \$3.75.

By ROB F. HALL

THIS book, containing little that has not been previously published, tells almost nothing new about the writer whose slashing attacks on the commercialism and hypocrisy of Big Business civilization made such an impact 30 years ago. It does, however, remind the reader that Sinclair Lewis was a passionate champion of democratic institutions, that he hated racism, and that he was always ready to break a lance against the carriers of fascism.

One closes the volume with regret, therefore, that Lewis, who died in Rome in January, 1951, did not live during these days when McCarthyism has become such an open threat to our freedom. For if he were alive, I think it certain that he would have used his biting and irascible eloquence against the Senator from Wisconsin and his pro-fascist henchmen.

THIS IS NOT the effect desired by the editors of the book. Apparently they have selected from Lewis' non-fiction writings every scrap of red-baiting (and there was plenty of it) while those pieces which might prove offensive to the McCarthys are kept at a minimum. In reprinting an article Lewis wrote in 1914 for The Bookman, entitled "Relations of the Novel to the Present Social Unrest; the Passing of Capitalism," the editors have inserted an apologetic foreword, fearful, it would seem, that the House Un-American Committee might try to subpoena Lewis' ghost.

Nor does this volume shed any light on that question of greatest interest to serious students of Sinclair Lewis—why he never completed the novel on American labor which he was writing in 1929—although one of the finest pieces in this book is Lewis' article on the textile strikes of Marion, North Carolina.

THE ANSWER to this question, when it comes, may explain why with his restless, searching intelligence and his splendid talent, Sinclair Lewis never followed the example of Theodore Dreiser and identified himself with the working class movement, the only consistent and effective foe of the commercialism which he so deeply resented.

Because of this failure Lewis never overcame his most basic limitation. In Main Street, Babbitt, Arrowsmith, and Elmer Gantry, he was representative of the middle class revolt against the crassness, the crudities and



SINCLAIR LEWIS

the cruelties of our commercial civilization.

Lewis did not demand a revolutionary change in society. What he was saying to the Big Business crowd was something like this:

In your mad scramble for dollars you have ignored all the finer, more sensitive values contributed to our civilization by the thinkers of the Great Enlightenment. You have turned your back on music, art, literature. You have no respect for the inherent dignity of the human being, nor for human rights. You have tried to reduce all culture to the drab mediocrity and bigotry of the small town. . . . If you will mend your ways, extend recognition to the sensitive and talented among us, if you will encourage the development of a vital and vigorous cultural life which puts a premium on imagination and originality, you will find me your most humble servant.

WHEN LEWIS died a little over two years ago, he had amassed some property and he had lived comfortably. But he was not a happy man. The Big

Business civilization had not accepted his offer. It had not mended its ways. Main Street was paved but the bigots were still in power. Babbitt was still fighting the trade unions, voting the straight Republican ticket and reading Reader's Digest. The artist or writer was still regarded by the "barons of banking . . . (as) only a decorator or a clown . . . who in any case certainly does not count in a land that produces 80-story buildings, motors by the million, and wheat by the billions of bushels."

Babbitt and his fellow business men had not mended their ways because they could not. Big Business in the U. S. A. in the second quarter of the 20th Century could no more promote a free flowering of culture than it could solve the problem of recurring economic crises. The complaint which Lewis leveled against capitalist society was more basic than he was aware. Lewis thought he was attacking a culture which was raw and immature—which refused to grow up. But the fact is that what really repelled Lewis was a culture which was already decadent, the superstructure of a system already degenerating.

UNDER THE circumstances, it was impossible for the Big Business civilization to satisfy Sinclair Lewis. To his credit, Lewis never relaxed his hostility to those evil aspects of it which he recognized and exposed. It is regrettable however that he never understood the problems as well as did one of his contemporaries whom he so profoundly admired, Theodore Dreiser.

To any one interested in understanding Sinclair Lewis I would recommend not this book of essays, but rather his novels, especially Main Street, Babbitt, Arrowsmith, Elmer Gantry, It Can't Happen Here, and Kingsblood Royal.

## A Negro Mother Writes: 'My Husband, Smith Act Victim'

This is My Husband, by Mrs. Esther Cooper Jackson. Published by the National Committee to Defend Negro Leadership—25 cents.

Reviewed by ELIHU S. HICKS

ALMOST ANY NEGRO whose ancestors lived in the South before the Civil War will tell you stories, told by his parents or grandparents about the Negro fugitives who evaded the plantation owners and their police by way of the Underground Railroad. Many of the stories have the qualities of breathtaking adventure, and always the fugitive and the "conductors" on the Railroad are the heroes and heroines.

Or, today there are few of us who don't remember the motion pictures depicting anti-Nazis in Germany, with heavy penalties over their heads, suffering and working to evade the Gestapo in the interests of freedom and democracy.

Generally, we think of these as a sort of souvenir of the barbaric days of slavery and the renewed barbarism of Hitlerism. The names of those fugitives make up a great part of the list of humanity's heroes.

But how many of us ever thought that here in the United States in the year 1953 there would be Negro and white fugitives—fugitives from political oppression?

IN A STIRRING pamphlet recently published by the "National Committee to Defend Negro Leadership," a Negro mother tells the story of one such refugee, who, even as you read these lines, is being hunted like an animal by the FBI. His name is James Jackson, son, alternate member of the na-

tional committee of the Communist Party of the United States.

The pamphlet, written by his wife, Mrs. Esther Cooper Jackson, tells the story of this Smith Act "fugitive" who, with several other workingclass leaders "acted in the great tradition of Frederick Douglass and the abolitionists who defied the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 (that infamous law also had the endorsement of the Supreme Court!)"

IN HER INTRODUCTION to "This Is My Husband," Mrs. Jackson wrote:

"It is a great effort to write these words. Memories pour through my brain and fill my heart. It is hard to capture in words that which ought rightfully be told in song: words are flat and dead things but a song has life and soul, and nourishes dreams, and joy, and hope, and glorious deeds, like the story of my husband. It is a hard thing to confine oneself merely to making words about one's beloved upon whose face one has not looked for what seems like an eternity of time. I want so much to have now his warm comradeship; to hear again from his lips those winged words of exciting promise as he would give voice to his confident dreams of a free and bountiful new life for the world's humble peoples."

To read this woman's story about her husband and family, is to love them and feel a part of their heroic struggle. And it is to hate the political police who constantly hound ten year old Harriet and five year old Kathryn and their playmates; and most of all to hate the vicious Smith Act and the governmental terrorism which stands between this heroic father and his wife and children.



# Administration Trying to Block Real Settlement With China

**OFFICIAL REACTION** last week to Premier Chou En-lai's new peace offer indicated the Eisenhower - Dulles Administration will not negotiate a real settlement with People's China unless forced to do so by popular pressure.

This impression is substantiated by the record of Washington's obstruction of agreement on an armistice in Korea since the truce talks began July 10, 1951.

Reaction to Chou's offer was described by press reports as a "wait-and-see attitude" (N. Y. Herald-Tribune, 3/31), and an attitude of "natural reserve and caution" (N. Y. Times, 3/31).

Beneath these attitudes were as many views of Chou's motivation as there were comments. But the rationalizations could not conceal the real reason for the "caution" in Washington, namely—

"... the consensus was: Let's not allow the Communist peace offensive to interfere (1) with the ratification of the European Defense Community Treaty by West Germany and France, (2) with the efforts to rearm Japan and bring that country into the non-Communist coalition or (3) with the passage of an effective United States military budget and foreign aid program." (James Reston, N. Y. Times, 4/1.)

The Wall Street Journal (3/31) put it even more bluntly:

"... Mao Tse-tung won't get the United States off his neck just by agreeing to a fair truce in Korea. ... The United States is not willing to give up its other pressures against the Red Chinese unless Mao agrees to stop aggression in Indo-China and other trouble spots in the Far East. ... Specifically, the U. S. would keep troops in Korea and Japan. It would keep tightening the economic embargo against the Red Chinese. It would continue arming Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist forces on Formosa and native armies in Indo-China."

And United Press reported from Seoul (March 31) that "it also will be necessary to agree on a new truce line. The two sides agreed on one once but it has gone out of date."

Following Chou's offer, the New York Times' James Reston wrote from Washington that "the State Department spotted a number of glaring ambiguities" in the proposal.

The impression left by such reports was that the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration is seeking new ways to obstruct agreement on an armistice and ceasefire in Korea, while also attempting to utilize the new Chinese-Korean

offer for aggravating disagreement over other Far Eastern questions.

**SUCH A POSITION** was in full accord with the record of official U. S. obstruction of efforts to reach agreement on a Korean armistice since July 10, 1951. The record in brief:

July 12, 1952: U. S. negotiators fail to appear at Kaesong on grounds armed guards stopped convoy bearing U. S. newsmen.

August 5, 1951: Gen. Ridgway breaks off talks on ground Korean-Chinese troops were seen marching near site of negotiations.

August 24, 1951: Ridgway refuses to come to talks on ground of investigating Korean-Chinese charges of truce-zone violations; talks suspended 63 days.

November 28, 1951: long stalemate begins on questions airfields in North Korea, armistice inspection teams and prisoner exchange.

## Why Did They Die?

(Continued from Page 4)

at greater and some at lesser cost. Nevertheless, there was always a toll in dead and wounded. But, as Lucas wrote from the foot of Old Baldy, "In the last war we knew where we were going and what the men were dying for."

**WE NEVER HEARD** then what Alden reported in Friday's Times. Alden spoke to one of the soldiers who was due to go back up Old Baldy again. The soldier was wondering about his buddy who, he feared, might have been killed. "Probably he's dead," the GI said. "Maybe we will all be dead. I don't even care anymore."

There was much haziness about our objectives among the men in World War II. But there was not

the hopelessness which causes a youth of 20 to abandon the will to live.

Yet, while Lucas ponders a reason for dying that would sound plausible to a soldier in Korea and while Alden tells of the 20-year-old who has given up hope, O'Donnell reports that "our leaders in both parties got the jitters" at the mere thought of peace.

But there was some solace for Eisenhower's top "advisers," reported O'Donnell. Peace will come too late for Lucas' "boys under those brown wool blankets on those bloody stretchers."

Not for Eisenhower's advisers. O'Donnell said that "some of them are chuckling over a recollection that they sold out their big stock holdings before the threat of peace thundered from the Kremlin."

## What to Do on the Rent Steal

(Continued from Page 1)

ing a decision on legislation.

5. Mobilize the tenants in your house to discuss the new law and get in touch with your nearest tenants' council, plus your Democratic, Republican or American Labor Party club, to explore all avenues for resisting increases under the new law.

a. Send delegations to your local rent office to determine the legal rental of the apartments in your building March 1, 1943.

b. Ask your tenants' council if any increases for "increased services" since that time cannot be deducted from the 15 percent above 1943 levels charged.

c. Ask Dept. of Buildings and Housing send investigators on any violations.

d. Demand reduction of rent for any decreases of services or for landlord's failure to repair violations impairing health or safety.

6. Insist that State Rent Administrator Joseph McGoldrick, 280 Broadway, set up a commit-

tee including labor, tenants and civic organizations' representatives, to be a part of the administrative machinery and to aid in making decisions of policy.

7. Urge the state AFL and state CIO to take up the CIO's position stated during the rent law fight that if across-the-board rent increases were allowed by the legislators they would become a factor in renegotiation of contracts. Also call on the labor bodies to implement their previous stated positions in favor of a special session dealing with rents if the landlords' bill was passed.

**what's on**

### SATURDAY

#### Manhattan

CLUB CINEMA presents the German screen classic "Kameradschaft" (1931). A timeless epic based on the actual incident. Two showings Friday, Saturday and Sunday starting at 8:30 p.m. at 430 6th Ave., near 9th St. Adm. \$1 to members, \$1.25 to non-members.

ALP COMMUNITY CENTER, 220 W. 80 St. (near Broadway) presents Saturday, April 4, "For Aces and Queens" an evening of chess, checkers, bridge and cantata. ... relax with your favorite friends at your favorite game ... refreshments ... 75c.

BOB CAREY AND YANK LEVINE are only two of the new faces you will see at tonight's People's Artists "All Pools" Hoosier-Dance, Webster Hall, 119 East 11th St. Tickets still available. Don't miss it!

#### Brooklyn

BROOKLYN Freedom of the Press Association "Greets Steve Nelson." Saturday, April 4, at the Brighton Community Center, 3300 Coney Island Ave. Entertainment by Les Pine and the All-Star Revue. Dancing follows. Admission 75c in advance and \$1 at the door.

### SUNDAY

#### Manhattan

SUNDAY FORUM presents a film and a forum on Steve Nelson's "The Volunteers" with speakers: Howard Fast, Joseph North, Milton Wolff, Phil. The National Board of Jewish Education presents a film and a forum on Steve Nelson's "The Volunteers" with speakers: Howard Fast, Joseph North, Milton Wolff, Phil. The National Board of Jewish Education presents a film and a forum on Steve Nelson's "The Volunteers" with speakers: Howard Fast, Joseph North, Milton Wolff, Phil.

## Flood Waters Hit Maine



Rain-swollen river waters flood a street in Auburn, Maine. The damage in New England was estimated in the millions and 3,000 persons were homeless in the area's worst flood since 1936.

## Peace Knocks at the Door

(Continued from Page 1)

and Korean commanders in Korea addressed a letter to Gen. Mark Clark of the UN forces a proposal for exchanging sick and wounded prisoners of war according to Article 109 of the Geneva Convention of 1949, in line with Gen. Clark's earlier proposal. The letter also suggested that such an exchange could lead to the resumption of truce talks at Panmunjom and the settlement of the question of exchanging all prisoners of war, the only remaining unsettled question of 64 in the armistice negotiations.

On March 30, Premier Chou En-lai, on behalf of both the Chinese and North Korean Governments, broadcast over Peking Radio a new peace offer. Chou stated that the two governments agreed to the repatriation, immediately after the cessation of military activities, of all prisoners of war insisting on repatriation, and proposed that all other prisoners of war should be handed over to a neutral state where they could be interviewed with the aim of settling the question of their repatriation with fairness.

On March 31, Chou addressed this proposal to the United Nations.

**THE SOVIET PROPOSAL** for a new attempt to settle the question of Germany was made in the form of a letter to "The German Rally" in Freies Volk, a Duesseldorf newspaper, by Gen. Vassily Chuikov, the Soviet Commander in Germany. The "Rally" is a West German political group favoring re-unification of Germany and negotiations with the Soviet Union.

In his letter, Gen. Chuikov proposed that the Big Four Powers meet to write a peace treaty for

Germany and reunite the country under a democratic government.

**DIPLOMATS AND STATESMEN** of other countries, unlike the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration's politicians, viewed the new Soviet and Chinese-Korean peace offers with hope and warmth.

• The Vatican called for their acceptance. Osservatore Romano, official organ, said of the Korean-Chinese offer that "it offers the ray of light that may become a vaster horizon of peace."

• Prime Minister Churchill said he welcomed the new Soviet peace moves, believed that the new Korean armistice plan seemed to offer a hope for ending the Korea war.

• V. K. Krishna Menon, India's representative to the UN, hailed the proposals, moved to interrupt Assembly debate and give the Chinese-Korean plan priority, but agreed to wait until Tuesday to open discussion on them.

These, and the statements of numerous other diplomats, suggested that the rest of the world is taking a different view of the chances for peace than the Eisenhower Administration.

Such were the answers to the question which official U. S. Administration reaction had raised in the mind of the American people.

**MEANWHILE**, even in the U.S., powerful voices representing another view were beginning to speak out, while developments in the fast-moving political phase moved nearer a climax.

House Democratic Leader John W. McCormack declared the new Korean-Chinese peace offer should be explored immediately.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov declared the Soviet government supported the Korean-Chinese offer, and suggested that "the United Nations could do more as regards an armistice in Korea if it were to include the legal representative of China and Korea."

At Panmunjom, liaison teams of the two sides resumed their meetings, while fighting on the battlefronts subsided.

In the United Nations, delegates took an Easter recess and prepared to return to work Monday, when in all probability the Korean-Chinese proposals will come before the Political and Security Committee for full-dress debate. Despite State Department opposition to this procedure, there was belief at weekend that the question could not be deferred.

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# AN OPEN LETTER TO THE COMPTROLLER

## How Will L. Joseph Vote?

TO LAZARUS JOSEPH  
DEAR MR. COMPTROLLER:

You hold the immediate fate of the Transit Authority in your hands. When the fare issue comes up for a Board of Estimate vote next April 7 your three votes will either gouge each New Yorker from \$30 to \$90 more a year, or kill the Dewey-Impellitteri higher-fare scheme.

Never did a member of the Board hold forth so much hope to the people as you do now, Mr. Joseph. As Comptroller you have shown a zig-zag course, often in the people's interests, often dismayingly weak and uncertain. But you have always declared yourself in the "best interests of the city of New York."

You know where those interests lie. You knew it when you rejected the private bus line demands for a fare rise back in 1949; you knew it when you objected to Robert Moses' highway projects at the expense of housing; you knew it when you voted with the Stuyvesant Tenants against Metropolitan; you knew it when you pressed the then Mayor O'Dwyer to stand firm on the nickel ride when he was weakening in 1947; you knew it when you "blew your top" at the O'Dwyer-Dewey doublecross on state aid.

As a State Senator from the Bronx who received and accepted gladly the support of many labor organizations, you fought on a whole slew of issues in the Legislature which helped block the reactionary steamroller.

YOU PRIDE yourself on being close to the people. Those three votes you own on the Board of

• Should they die while there are doubts?

ATTEND THE

## ROSENBERG CLEMENCY MEETING

Randall's Island Stadium  
Sunday, April 26  
2 P.M.

See and Hear  
"THE ROSENBERG STORY"

A Dramatic Presentation

NOTED SPEAKERS

• Special facilities for children

Admission \$1  
CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE  
Tickets Available At:  
NEW YORK COMMITTEE FOR CLEMENCY FOR THE ROSENBERGS, 1050 Sixth Ave. N.Y.C.  
BR 9 9694



LAZARUS JOSEPH

Estimate are the "closest" things to the people you have—if used against the Authority.

When you first accepted the Dewey-Impellitteri fare plan you stunned and shocked the hundreds of thousands of voters who elected you. They couldn't understand how you—a repeated opponent to a fare increase—could go along with such an outrageous, cruel stab in the back of the people.

Later you reversed yourself. Or rather, you decided to hold off your affirmative vote pending "clarifications" from the governor and a clearer detail of the Authority bill itself.

You ask: what will the city credit be on the sale of private lines? what will the pension adjustments be? what about this and what about that—all technical and complicated problems. But why the questions, Mr. Joseph?

There is only question involved. Will the Authority mean a fare increase? And you answered it yourself. You said it would mean from 5 to 12 cents more a ride. Isn't that enough answer to the Authority plan?

SUNDAY FORUM presents . . .

A Film and a Forum  
Steve Nelson's  
"The Volunteers"  
Speakers: HOWARD FAST  
JOSEPH NORTH  
MILTON WOLFF

Film: "The Spanish Earth"  
Epic documentary on Loyalist struggle in Spain

Sunday, April 5  
At 8:15 P.M. • Refreshments  
Contribution: \$1.00 (50c for students)

JEFFERSON SCHOOL  
of SOCIAL SCIENCE  
575 Sixth Ave.  
(10th St.) N.Y.

IF YOU VOTE against Authority the issue will be deadlocked—8 to 8—on the Board. IT COULD KILL THE FARE GOUGE SCHEME.

We urge you join with Council President Halley and Borough President Wagner against the Dewey-Impellitteri plan. We ask that you recall your own declarations and principle on fares, rents, taxes and other vital public issues. We ask that you remember those days in the State Senate. We say to you, Comptroller Joseph—you cannot, you must not let the people down.

Cast those three votes with Halley's three and Wagner's two! Your three votes are decisive. Remember the people, Mr. Comptroller, and VOTE "NO" NEXT APRIL 7!

Yours against the Authority,  
MICHAEL SINGER,  
City Hall Reporter.

## Issue 50,000 Pamphlets On May Day

The Provisional Committee for May Day-1953 yesterday repeated its call for delegates to the May Day conference which will be held at 4 p.m., Saturday at the St. Nicholas Arena, 69 W. 66 St. The conference will lay final plans for the annual May Day parade down Eighth Avenue.

A delegation from the committee, including Committee secretary Bernard Minter, chairman Leon Straus, and William L. Patterson secured a permit and the line of march from the Police Department last weekend.

The Committee has also prepared and is distributing 50,000 copies of a 16 page May Day pamphlet and the "March May 1" buttons.

The committee declared, "What is urgently needed now, is for all participating organizations to take the necessary political and organizational measures to guarantee the success of the conference and to raise funds to finance preparations for the May Day parade."

New Playwrights Co.  
405 West 41st Street

### The Big Deal

Performances Tonight, Apr. 3, 4, 10  
Admission: \$1.50-\$1.00

Bookings and Reservations  
LO 5-9856

BROOKLYN will greet

### WILLIAM ALBERTSON

and will pay honor to his fellow-defendants in the Pittsburgh Smith Act Trial including Steve Nelson

Les Pine and All-Star Review

Dancing to Jerry Malcolm's Band

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1953

BRIGHTON COMMUNITY CENTER  
3200 Coney Island Avenue

Sponsored by: Brooklyn Freedom of the Press Association  
All outstanding subs for The Worker and Daily Worker should be brought to the affair. Leading groups and individuals in The Worker circulation campaign will be honored at the affair!

ADMISSION IN ADVANCE TO

AT DOOR \$1.00

## On the Record

by Michael Singer

### Available

WE'VE BEEN SAYING that the city has money available if it goes after the landlord trusts which are getting away with murder in under-assessed commercial and industrial properties. Some of the city officials have challenged me. Give proof, they demand. Here it is:

In 1932 the following buildings

	1932	1951-52
N. Y. Life Insurance Co., 9 Battery Place	\$ 8,100,000	\$ 7,600,000
N. Y. Life Insurance Co., 43-61 Madison Ave.	13,700,000	10,700,000
Irving Trust, 1 Broadway	21,600,000	15,600,000
N. Y. Stock Exchange, 2-20 Broadway	22,750,000	16,850,000
National City Bank, 53-57 Wall St.	8,300,000	6,550,000
Mutual Life Ins. Co., 28-40 Nassau St.	10,000,000	6,300,000
Chase National Bank, 14 Nassau St.	10,900,000	9,950,000
Metropolitan Life, 519-21 Fifth Ave.	9,700,000	7,300,000
Metropolitan Life, 1 Fourth Ave.	13,700,000	10,700,000
New York City R.R. Co. (Baltimore Hotel)	13,650,000	10,850,000

We could go on and on and on, building after building . . . but who's kidding whom? The city officials know the truth. At least \$80,000,000 to \$125,000,000 down the drain (gilt-edge drain, too) because the monopolies swindle city workers and subway riders and the public generally out of money available for increased salaries, lower fares and better service. We repeat:

We repeat, Mr. Mayor—here's the solution! Get after the big trusts and their real estate values. Tax them what they're worth. You won't have to cringe and whimper over "budget crises" then.

### Watch This One

A sneak bill before Gov. Dewey forces out of the party any political figure who refuses to waive immunity or who sticks to his constitutional right not to answer investigation committee queries . . . looks like a good thing, judging from Tammany and Republican politicians . . . but it's actually another weapon for witchhunts in progressive minority parties.

### Killed

The Graci bill to set up a statewide "subversive" control board died in Committee and never reached the floor . . . The sessions were singularly free of witchhunting bills and rampant red-baiting sprees.

### Labor

AFL activity killed a bill in last moments of Legislature which would have exempted Schenectady from state plumbing code (and given non-union contractors a juicy plum, probably) . . . Sen. Campbell, sponsor, admitted labor pressure was too strong in withdrawing the measure . . . if only AFL put up as much fight on rent and fare rises, the picture might have been different.

### Scene Shifting

The dramatic struggle against a possible 22-40 cent fare, payless days for city workers, wholesale

were valued at the figures listed and in 1951-52 their assessments were cut. Without using an Einsteinian formula and taking the most conservative estimate of what this reduction amounts to on the basis of 2 percent of a 5-year average valuation, the city literally gave back to the profiteers over six and a half million dollars—enough to keep the day care centers open!

civil service firings, \$36,000,000 in new consumer taxes, Tonawanda Trolley transit services, a payroll tax—and the 15 percent rent gouge, of course—now swings over to New York City . . . roll up your sleeves, people, it's going to be a grim, long summer!

### New York CIO-PAC

The second article of Max Gordon's series on New York State CIO-PAC will appear in The Worker next week.

### Rally to Hear Facts On Anti-Semitism Lies

CARMENT WORKERS who have been deluged with the false propaganda about "anti-Semitism" in the countries of Socialism will have a chance to get the actual facts Tuesday at a meeting organized by the Carment Workers Freedom of the Press Committee.

George Morris, labor editor of the Daily Worker, whose series of Daily Worker articles exposing the hoax has been reprinted in pamphlet, will speak.

Time is Tuesday evening, April 7, at 6 p.m. Place is Malin Studios, 225 W. 46 St., Room 204.

### Don't Be Foolish!

It WOULD be foolish to miss People's Artists big "All Fools" Hootenanny & Dances featuring Leon Bibb, Nadene Brewer, Bob Curry, Sylvia Kahn, Elizabeth Knight, Latin American Folk Group, Yank Levis, Jean Mural, Dave Bear, Pete Seeger, Sonny Terry, Earl Shendell Orch. It's tonight!

### HOOTENANNY and Dance

Tonight — Sat., April 4  
Webster Hall, 119 E. 11 St.

Tix: \$1.25 in adv. (reserved), at bookshops, People's Art, GR 7-1341, \$1.50 at door.

SEE EARLY DAYS OF STALIN History in the making... **Lenin 1918** GRAND PRIZE WINNER

## YOUTH REVIEW

Tackles the hows and whys of the big problems facing the young generation, from the standpoint of Marxism  
Spring 1953 issue includes:

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Leon Wofsy: Youth and the GOP  
Gus Hall: On Leadership Training  
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